

Historians call for deeper scrutiny of Hitler diaries

From Michael Binyon, Hamburg

Two leading historians of the Nazi period yesterday called on *Stern* magazine to allow German experts to examine the Hitler diaries to ensure they are not forgeries.

Until this was done, Professor Gerhard Weinberg from the United States and Lord Dacre of Glanton (formerly Professor Hugh Trevor-Roper) told a packed press conference here, the world could never be sure that the 60 volumes, now in a Swiss bank vault, were indeed written by Hitler and taken from the wreckage of one of the last aircraft to leave Berlin in 1945.

The extraordinary press conference, punctuated by scuffles and loud arguments over interventions by Mr David Irving, a British writer on Hitler, was called by *Stern* to mark the publication yesterday of the first part of the magazine's sensational series on the diaries.

In the face of questioning by more than 200 sceptical journalists, *Stern* refused to say exactly how it had acquired the documents, to identify the intermediaries who smuggled them out of East Germany or to say where they had been hidden for the past 35 years.

Herr Gerd Heidemann, the *Stern* reporter who tracked them down, insisted he would not betray his sources, nor say anything that would endanger those he had spoken to in East Germany.

His refusal was seen by Lord Dacre, whom *The Times* asked to verify the authenticity of the diaries, as a serious weakening of the case for considering them genuine.

"I understood in Zurich that the documents had passed through the hands of one person, a Wehrmacht officer who obtained them from the aircraft and that this man - who is still alive - passed them on to Mr Heidemann," Lord Dacre said. "I now discover this is not so and that I must have misunderstood."

"*Stern* is relying implicitly on Mr Heidemann. I am sure that he worked hard on this but anyone can be mistaken and I cannot regard this evidence as being as firm as it was."

Lord Dacre said he stood by what he wrote in *The Times* on Saturday. He did not think his personal reputation was at stake or depended on the diaries' authenticity. "That does not worry me. If I am wrong, I am wrong. If I am right, I am right."

But the lack of any direct link between the books and the plane crash made it all the more urgent for historians to examine the complete text and check for obvious absurdities.

Lord Dacre said he was surprised that in the past three years no German historian had been given a chance for critical evaluation. He also complained, to the embarrassment of the *Stern* editors beside him, that the "normal methods of historical verification had been sacrificed" to journalistic treatment.

However, his retreat from his decisive stand last week did not mean that he believed the diaries were genuine.

Continued on back page, col 6



By the book: Gerd Heidemann of *Stern* magazine, who discovered the Hitler diaries, holds up a volume at the press conference in Hamburg yesterday.

Abusive start to election debate

By Our Political Staff

With all parties on a "red alert" in case Mrs Margaret Thatcher decides to go for a June general election, plans for the publication of manifestos and advertising campaigns are being speeded up. Tonight the Social Democrats have their first political broadcast on television, which has been preceded by an aggressive poster campaign.

One poster in the series, about unemployment, shows Mrs Thatcher as a heartless "Tin Man" from *The Wizard of Oz* and Mr Michael Foot as the scarecrow from the same film. Mrs Thatcher is saying: "If only I had a heart" and Mr Foot responds with: "If only I had a brain".

Another poster shows the two party leaders as finger puppets with Mr Foot saying: "Stuff the bosses!" and Mrs Thatcher giving the rejoinder: "Stuff the unions!"

This kind of start does not augur well for the level of debate, and has provoked Mr Jim Mortimer, general secretary of the Labour Party, into a declaration that his advertising men "will not fight an abusive campaign, nor indulge in personal insults." His party will stick to arguments about policy, he promises.

The Conservative Party's guide to party policy, performance and promise, which must be in the hands of every candidate and key party worker well before election day, was originally planned for publication in mid-July.

That suggests that some time ago there had been a "nod and a wink" to indicate that the earliest likely date was the autumn. But three weeks ago a new message went out: preparations must be hastened.

The party press office confirmed yesterday that the guide will be published within the next three weeks. That would be in time for an election in June, although it is usually available several months in advance of polling day.

The nine policy groups, consisting of Conservative MPs and outside experts, have completed their work on ideas for the manifesto and these have been submitted to Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is coordinating work on the document.

The party's advertising agents, Saatchi and Saatchi, are on stand-by and are said to be making contingency plans for June or October, with the ability to book the required poster sites whenever the Prime Minister makes the decision.

Party officials say that at least £10m will be spent on the election campaign and it could be as high as £20m, depending on the response the party's backers make to the latest appeals.

Labour leaders say their funds will be nothing like that.

Continued on back page, col 2

Tomorrow

The "winos" under the Charing Cross arches are not renowned for their love of cricket, yet they are welcomed through the hallowed Grace Gate of Lord's. In tomorrow's *Spectrum*, as a new season opens, Rupert Morris describes how they and many others combine to preserve the Mecca of the game.

On the Wednesday Page, Penny Perick talks to Katharine Moore, who celebrated her eighty-fifth birthday yesterday - with the publication of her first novel.

France to boycott US summit

France intends to boycott a Paris summit of the seven leading Western states called by the US Administration. M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, made clear his opposition to such institutionalized meetings after EEC foreign ministers discussed in Luxembourg worsening transatlantic relations.

Trade imperialism, page 6

Pound closes up 2.05 cents

The pound ended 2.05 cents up against the dollar at \$1.5660 and reached its highest point this year on its trade-weighted index, up 0.8 at \$4.0, on reports of oil price rises from Russia and Egypt.

Page 17

Reagan hint

President Reagan's reversal of his ban on grain negotiations with the Soviet Union is seen as a further indication that he intends to seek another presidential term.

Page 7

Roach warning

Police fear the likelihood of further disorder in east London if the Colin Roach inquest is moved to a larger venue, the High Court was told.

Page 2

Spencer's bill

Lord Spencer has been ordered to pay £1,000 to a woman whose dog was shot by his gamekeepers.

Page 2

Prince's paths

The Prince of Wales has asked Gloucestershire County Council to move two footpaths which skirt his Highgrove estate to prevent sightseers looking into the grounds.

Page 3

Guerrilla gains

Guerrillas in El Salvador can now move freely and attack military and civilian targets with relative ease, according to US and Salvadorean government officials.

Page 6

Walesa fear

Lech Walesa returned to work in the Gdansk shipyards, voicing fears of being arrested in the May Day demonstrations "which could be a trap for me".

Page 5

Swing to greens

Dr Bruno Kreisky, the outgoing Austrian Chancellor, has attributed his defeat in Sunday's poll partly to a swing to the two "green" parties.

Page 5

Harrods blow

The main board of the House of Fraser suffered a legal defeat in its battle to stop the demerger of Harrods.

Page 17

Tutor for Bruno

Floyd Patterson, the former world heavyweight boxing champion, has arrived in London to tutor Frank Bruno, Britain's unbeaten heavyweight prospect.

Page 29

Computer Horizons: Information Technology and Parliament: Hanover Fair report, Software at the Town Hall. Pages 23-27

Leader page 13
Letters: On Hitler diaries, from the Chief Rabbi, and Mr D. L. Newcombe; public records, from Lord Teviot; industrial recovery, from the Bishop of Lincoln.
Leading articles: Kreisky; Alliance leadership; Probation officers strike.
Features, pages 8, 9, 12
Is there a future for the BBC? looking left, right and centre with the Alliance; in place of prison: *Spectrum*; Dag Hammarskjöld and the UN double standard; Fashion: postman's knock with that touch of class.
Obituary, page 14
Sir Ralph Turner, Rolf Stommelen

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Times Newspapers statement

Times Newspapers said yesterday: The contract for the purchase of the Hitler war diaries is between *Stern* magazine and The News Corporation, the world-wide parent company of Times Newspapers. The serialisation rights obtained are Britain's largest Commonwealth. The sum involved is \$US400,000 (£256,000). This money will be paid over this and next year. The arrangement has always been for publication to start in *The Sunday Times* three weeks after *Stern* to allow further work on authentication. Last Saturday an article was published in *The Times* by Lord Dacre of Glanton (formerly Professor Hugh Trevor-Roper). After an examination of the documents, Lord Dacre expressed his satisfaction that they were authentic. At that time *The Sunday Times* proceeded with publication of a report on the discovery of the diaries and announced that extracts would appear next month. If Lord Dacre and other historians feel that they need time for further investigation, everything possible within the power of *The Sunday Times* will be done to provide them with these facilities.

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Ford lends £1,000m to US owners

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Ford of Britain lent its American parent company almost £1,000m last year, the company's report and accounts revealed yesterday.

The British company issued a special discount note for \$574m which the American group does not have to repay until the end of January, 1987. The discount was calculated on a normal commercial basis, the company said.

Ford's British profits before tax for 1982 totalled £194m, compared with £220m the previous year, and, as before, continued to be boosted by interest, earned primarily from the loans to the American company.

Mr Sam Toy, chairman and managing director of Ford of Britain, gave a warning that the company's position remained precarious. We are now in the position of the man who has fallen off a cliff but has managed to catch hold of a tree on the way down.

He said that there appeared to be no relief from the misery of economic recession, with Ford's competitors offering a "tougher and tougher" fight.

Mr Toy's performance-related salary rose last year by 9.4 per cent to £57,538, but it remains less than those for other top motor industry jobs and well below recently-announced salaries in the nationalized industries.

Business News, page 17

BL men expected to defy stewards

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

A meeting of the 5,000 strikers at BL's Cowley plant today is expected to end with a four-week "washing-up" dispute in spite of a last-minute rebellion by shop stewards.

The 60 stewards from the Oxfordshire plant voted unanimously yesterday to reject the final peace formula but "reluctantly" agreed to abide by an understanding reached between national union leaders and the management that no recommendation would be put to the mass meeting.

Local union officials are to examine the peace formula, the central feature of which is a four-week cooling off period, and the stewards' decision will then be relayed to the meeting, but without any accompanying recommendation to continue the strike.

In view of the stewards' reluctance to provoke a serious confrontation with the national leadership of the two unions involved, BL and the unions were predicting a return to work vote from the mass meeting.

The strikers have been made aware by the management that if they decide to continue the strike dismissal notices will be immediately sent out by BL. The strike has cost the company a production loss of about 17,000 cars worth more than £90m.

Mr Terence Duffy, the president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW), said last night: "I hope the workers see common sense. This is the best peace formula we can get and there is nothing more that can be offered. Let us get back now to producing the best cars in the world."

If the men accept the peace formula production should restart at Cowley on the night shift tonight.

Mr David Buckle, the Oxford district secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said after the stewards' meeting: "They carried the resolution unanimously stating that they do not accept the formula as a basis for a return to work. Their decision will be put to the mass meeting but they are not advising the strikers to either accept or reject it. They are simply stating their views."

During the "cooling off" period negotiations between the unions and the management will be held on the introduction of new productivity measures and the ending of the six-day working week "washing-up time".

Mr Harold Musgrove, the chairman of Austin Rover, said last night: "The statement from the shop stewards' meeting is directly contrary to what was agreed with the general secretary of the TGWU and the president of the AUEW (the Press Association reports). They guaranteed that proposals would be reported back, factually as the final position with no recommendation to reject from any level in the union, whether national officers, local officers or shop stewards."

TV-am crisis grows as ratings plunge

By Kenneth Gosling

A new ratings plunge saw TV-am, the commercial breakfast television service, head for an even deeper crisis yesterday as its unions discussed a new package of financial cuts and redundancies aimed at persuading the company's bankers tomorrow not to call in its overdrafts.

Viewing figures for the week ending April 17 dropped to 300,000, the level they reached at TV-am's most critical period covering the last week in February. The figures, published by the Broadcasters' Audience Research Board, showed a 25 per cent decrease on the week before, and the BBC *Breakfast Time* programme went up by 200,000 to an average weekday figure of 1.5 million.



Mr Aitken: Seeking savings of £5m.

The figures were published to a background of confusion about talks held with the company's unions last week. One union leader spoke yesterday of "a kind of lunatic situation" reached by the end of the week when figures different from those discussed earlier in the week were produced.

"We would not accept any redundancies as such unless we were really convinced of the need for them," he said. "There may be other methods of making savings which would also make a contribution towards saving the company."

Mr Timothy Aitken, the chief executive of TV-am, is said to be looking for a saving of £5m in running costs to convince the financial backers that the company is still viable. A 9 per cent pay rise promised for the summer could be a victim of the pruning process.

In the meantime, the station's 350 staff, whose expenses have been reduced, are reported to be pressing for a meeting with Mr Aitken over their future.

It was learnt yesterday that Mr Aitken is looking for heavy cuts in the operating budgets with each member of the staff being asked to make sacrifices.

The Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, which has between 140 and 150 members working at TV-am's Camden Lock studios in north London, said yesterday: "Certain ideas have been put forward by the management with counter suggestions by our own members."

"Having looked at the situation we are seeking ways of doing it without redundancies or undermining our agreement with the company."

The latest viewing figures relate to the week before the dismissal of Anna Ford and Angela Ripston. TV-am's weekend audience, with no BBC competition, is holding up well: Michael and Mary Parkinson are attracting a Saturday rating of 1.3 million and 700,000 on Sunday.

There was a sharp reply yesterday to Mr Peter Plouviez, the general secretary of Equity, the actors' union involved in the dispute over advertising rates on both TV-am and Channel 4. Mr Plouviez said at the union's annual meeting at the weekend that Equity would revert to the full independent television rate for advertising in July if no settlement was reached by then.

Arab fever 'caused by anxiety'

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

An independent American investigation into the epidemic which affected nearly 1,000 Palestinian residents of the occupied West Bank has concluded that the disease was induced by "anxiety" rather than mass poisoning, as had been alleged by many local Arabs.

The report also said there was no evidence of malingering or deliberate fabrication of symptoms.

Last night, the Israeli Government released a summary of the 25-page report prepared by two doctors from the US Department of Health Centre for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia - a highly respected medical institution.

The report concluded: "This epidemic may have been triggered initially either by psychological factors or by sub-toxic exposure to H2S (hydrogen sulphide). Its subsequent spread was mediated by psychogenic factors."

The H2S referred to is suspected to have come from an old latrine near the schoolroom at Arab village where the first 11 girls affected reported the main symptoms of fainting, stomach pains, and blurred vision.

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Youth Training Scheme agency approved

Woman on £29m jobs trail

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

The Manpower Services Commission has given outline approval for a freelance organization to manage a £29m project to place more than 15,000 school leavers with sponsor companies under the new Youth Training Scheme.

The Link Organization, based in Birkenhead, will receive £100 commission for every trainee it places under the scheme, a further £550 grant for a 12-week, off-the-job training course, and a £1,300 lump sum grant to meet the cost of a £25-a-week allowance to be paid to trainees.

The agency, which employs 60 people, will receive at least £1.5m to cover overheads and profit for the management of the teenagers' training. It will also administer the remaining £1,850 cash grants.

The organization has been founded by Mrs Elizabeth Rees, a former deputy chief executive and training director of the Distributive Industry Training Board, which was wound up by the Government last June.

Mr Dewi Rees, her husband, has resigned from an executive post with the commission



Mrs Elizabeth Rees: "Quality package".

because of the possibility of a conflict of interest. He is to join the Merseyside Task Force next month.

The Youth Training Scheme aims to give 450,000 school leavers a year's on-the-job training and work experience. The overall budget for the scheme is estimated at £900m for this financial year.

The commission has decided to use managing agents to operate the scheme and has already stated that it expects most to be employers, or groups involving employers, such as

small firms uniting to set up their own agency.

Mrs Rees said yesterday that she had decided to set up a national network of local managing agencies "to help small to medium-size firms and branches of multiples to take part in a quality Youth Training Scheme, without any of the administrative hassle".

A commission booklet, *Managing Agents*, says in response to the question: "Are there any limits on the way the £1,850 is spent?" - "No, provided the training programme is approved and each young person on it gets paid at least the allowance recommended."

Mr David Young, the commission's chairman, told a Commons select committee last month: "If they can deliver value and still make a profit, then there is nothing in the rules against it but it would actually surprise me."

Mr Rees said yesterday: "The demise of the board last June coincided with the emergence of the Youth Training Scheme, so it would, I suppose, be reasonable to try to look at maximizing the skills and expertise that existed in bringing together ex-board staff at all levels,



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Minister accused of insulting doctors with contraceptive ban

The Minister of Health's decision to refuse a licence for the injectable contraceptive Depo-Provera was tantamount to saying doctors were unreliable and unethical, a former president of the British Medical Association claimed yesterday.

Dame Josephine Barnes said Mr Kenneth Clarke's decision amounted to an "unwarrantable interference with the freedom of doctors to prescribe to their patients as they think best."

"The minister's decision also means he is depriving a significant number of women from having access to a useful contraceptive method."

"The minister seems to have been saying that he does not trust doctors to prescribe the drug properly. The implications behind this reasoning are monstrous."

"It is tantamount to saying that doctors in this country are unreliable and act unethically, that they pay no attention to the need for obtaining an informed

consent, that they do not explain potential risks and unpleasant side-effects to patients, that they treat patients in a totally arbitrary and uncaring fashion."

Dame Josephine, who is also a former vice-president of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and president of the National Association of Family Planning Doctors, said it was the first time a minister of health had refused to accept the advice of the "extremely responsible" committee on the Safety of Medicines.

The decision had been taken within a few days of Mr Clarke's appointment.

Dame Josephine's condemnation came in written evidence to a public hearing in London to decide whether Depo-Provera should be licensed for long-term use.

The hearing, the first of its kind to be held under the

Medicines Act, 1968, has been demanded by Upjohn Ltd, the drug's manufacturer, and only witnesses called by the company may appear before the panel.

That has angered the Coordinating Group on Depo-Provera. A delegation gathered outside wearing handkerchiefs over their mouths carrying slogans saying: "We are not allowed to speak here."

Several of the side-effects to which the group has drawn attention were accepted by Upjohn at the start of the hearing, which will last all week. But Mr Christopher Bathurst, QC, argued that the benefits outweighed the risks and accused the group of "seeking to condemn a minority of their fellow women either to inadequate or no contraception or something that is medically or personally unacceptable to them and condemn them to stress, unhappiness and medical problems and malconsequences."

The hearing continues today.



Animal magic: Penguin, dormouse and squirrel fashioned in silver by Mr Michael Bolton, from Kent, an exhibitor at the Goldsmiths' Craft Fair which opens tomorrow at Goldsmiths' Hall, in the City, for the sale of designer jewelry and silver. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

Scotland to have a new music academy

From Our Correspondent Glasgow

A new Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama is to be built in Glasgow at an estimated cost of £16m, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, announced yesterday. It is expected to be completed by 1987.

Mr Ainslie Millar, chairman of the board of governors, described it as a tremendously exciting moment, and said that he had been involved since 1965 in trying to get the building under way.

He said that the design of the building, on a site at Hope Street and Renfrew Street, had been described by the Royal Fine Arts Commission for Scotland as a fine example of contemporary architecture. The architect is Sir Leslie Martin of Cambridge.

To mark the academy Professor Robin Orr, a former chairman of Scottish Opera, is to compose an opera. It will be based on Tom Stoppard's play *On the Razzle*. Professor Orr has already composed *Wet of Hermiton* and *Full Circle*, for Scottish Opera.

The 360 students at present at the academy had a teaching staff of 60. Mr Philip Ledger, the academy's principal, said it was hoped that the new academy would have 270 students of music and 130 of drama.

Mr Ledger said that he was convinced that the new facilities of the academy were going to be formidable and he was certain they would attract students and staff not only from Scotland but also from further afield.

The facilities will include an opera theatre and large concert hall. The drama school is to have a large theatre and seven workshops.

The academy's present site is at St George's Place in the city centre, where it was established in 1888. The Treasury is meeting the full cost of the new academy.

Woman let vicious dogs go on rampage

A woman acted with "criminal irresponsibility" when she allowed two vicious doberman dogs on to the street, where they went on the rampage and bit 10 people, a judge at the Central Criminal Court said yesterday.

A woman, aged 72, died two days after being attacked by the dogs.

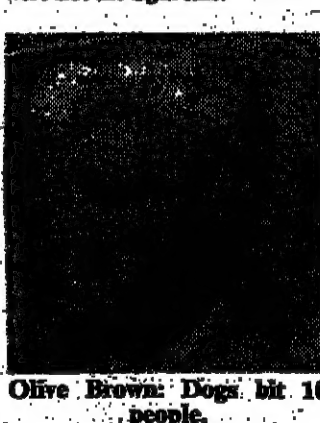
Judge Gibbons said Mrs Olive Brown had let the dogs out, knowing they were vicious and uncontrollable, after keeping them caged up unhumanely for a long time in her flat at Lamer Road, Erith, Kent.

Brown, aged 55, was given an eight-month jail sentence, suspended for two years, for admitting causing a nuisance to the public by bringing on to the streets two vicious and dangerous dogs and keeping them in circumstances whereby people were "in great danger of their lives, good health and property and were kept in great alarm and terror".

Her plea of not guilty to the manslaughter of Mrs Dorothy Dow was accepted by the prosecution.

Judge Gibbons said: "There is a body of opinion which thinks that dogs should not be kept in built-up areas, and certainly not vicious dogs. The reason I am passing this sentence upon you is that I think it should be recognized... that it is a very serious criminal offence to put other people in your locality in danger from savage injury in this way."

Mr Michael Worsley, for the prosecution, said that when Brown let out the dogs on



Olive Brown: Dogs bit 10 people.

Englishman alleges race bias

From Our Correspondent Colwyn Bay

An Englishman claimed yesterday that he lost his job because he did not speak Welsh, and that it was racial discrimination.

Mr Anthony Sweeting, of Glydlyn Hen, Pwllheli, was custodian manager of the Porthmadog Maritime Museum for the 1981 season, but he was not reappointed last year when the job was given to a man who could speak English and Welsh.

Mr Donald Calvert, a complaints officer from the Commission for Racial Equality, who is presenting Mr Sweeting's case, told an industrial tribunal at Colwyn Bay that it was an example of both direct and indirect discrimination under the Race Relations Act.

The museum's trustees deny unlawful dismissal.

Mr Sweeting said he had owned a house on the Llyn peninsula since 1968. During 1981 he had no difficulty

The hearing continues today.

Girl killed by father, QC says

From Our Correspondent Reading

A girl aged two was murdered by her epileptic father after social workers and magistrates had decided that she would be safe in his care, Reading Crown Court was told yesterday.

The events leading to the death of Katrina Lee were outlined by Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, for the prosecution. He said she was put in temporary care after her father, Philip Lee, aged 21, admitted assaulting her during a fit. However, within three weeks of returning home, she had been killed after a "severe and brutal assault".

He said that Mr Lee's wife left the child with him when she went out at about midday of October 4. When she returned she thought the child looked "plainly off colour". She went out again at 2.45 pm, and returned shortly afterwards to find the girl in "breathless difficulties" on the sofa. An ambulance was called but the girl died at 3.45 pm.

Mr Lee, of Cowley, Oxford, denies charges of murdering the child and assault, causing actual bodily harm.

The trial continues today.

Penlee clash over 'smears'

A solicitor was accused at the Penlee lifeboat inquiry in Freetown yesterday of smearing the memory of those who could not defend themselves.

Mr Noel Horner, who is representing two of the families of dead lifeboatmen, had renewed his criticism of Captain Mike Moreton, aged 32, the master of the sunken coaster Union Star.

Mr Horner also said that "as a matter of prudence" Mr George Sedgewick, aged 49, the Union Star's engineer, should have been given more than two hours to familiarize himself with the engine of the ship, which was making its maiden voyage.

Mr Gerald Darling, QC, for the Department of Trade, interrupted to say that Mr Horner was "smearing various

witnesses". Captain Moreton and Mr Sedgewick were both dead. Mr Horner's remarks were, grossly unfair to their memory, he said.

Earlier, Mr Horner said that he was persisting with allegations that "substantial errors of judgment" by Captain Moreton and coastsides contributed to the disaster, in which 16 people died, on December 19, 1981.

Mr Horner said that the coastsides should have suggested a Mayday. They had facts not at Captain Moreton's disposal. They knew roughly where the ship was, knew what the weather was like, and how long it would take for a helicopter to be alerted and for it and the lifeboat to reach the scene.

The coastsides 'should have

taken to restart the Union Star's engine. The coastsides was not sitting there as a servant to the master, in a passive or reactive role. The service had a very special function to initiate and coordinate search and rescue.

"If it failed in that function, in my submission it merely acts as a sounding board or a postbox for the master of a vessel", Mr Horner said.

He added: "The role book is being used as an excuse for the late launching of the Penlee lifeboat."

The inquiry continues today.

Mr Iain Sproat, the Minister for Trade, strongly denied in the commons yesterday that the Government had any plans to run down the role of the coastsides.

More ponies slashed by 'maniac'

An attacker who has already killed one horse has struck again, slashing a pony to death and badly slashing two others, bringing the toll to two horses dead and five seriously injured.

Det Inspector Paul Aylott, of Dunstable CID, speaking after the latest attack at Blows Down, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, said yesterday: "It is senseless, there are no words to describe it. It seems we have someone with a pure and unadmitted hatred of horses."

"This time the killer must have been covered in blood. Someone must be covering up for this man. His clothes will give him away."

Second polar bear drowns

Officials at Chester zoo were yesterday investigating the drowning of a polar bear, the second to die in the same pool within 18 months.

Three-year-old Nanook, whose body was found minutes after he was seen playing in the water, arrived at the zoo from Copenhagen in October 1980 with a female, Naja. She died under the ice in the pool in December 1981.

Top speaker

Miss Sophie Edwards, aged 16, the daughter of Mr Nicholas Edwards, the Secretary of State for Wales, yesterday won the National Schools Public Speaking Competition, defeating 4,000 other entrants.

109th birthday

Mrs Annie Chapman celebrated her 109th birthday at the Clapham Hospital in Bedford yesterday. Staff baked her a special cake and she received birthday wishes from her son aged 84.

Tea break

Thieves who spent three hours breaking into an iron safe at an Aluminium Systems company office in Yate, near Bristol, found only some tea bags and sugar.

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WIs challenge farmers on conservation

By David Nicholson-Lord

The 360,000 members of Women's Institutes are set to make a significant break with tradition by taking the conservationist's side against the farmer in the growing debate over the protection of the countryside.

At its annual meeting in five weeks, the National Federation of Women's Institutes is likely to endorse calls for the imposition of planning controls on farming, one of the most important measures demanded by conservationists. The move would commit the federation to an intensive lobbying campaign.

The proposal is one of four selected by the federation to coincide with the launching of a campaign to promote a more radical change for the WIs and recruit new members, especially among younger women in their twenties and thirties.

Ingredients include large-scale commercial sponsorship and car stickers proclaiming: "The WI has the country at heart", using the heart symbol more usually associated with Valentine cards and the peace movement.

WI leaders yesterday rejected charges that the movement was abandoning its non-political stance and aligning itself with the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Mrs Wilma Mulliner, treasurer of the federation, said: "We are not marchers. That is not our role. We do not go for these way-out things. The CND is not us and never has been."

The campaign is aimed at publicising the work of WIs, which represent the largest women's organization in Britain, in public affairs as well as crafts. But Mrs Mulliner acknowledged that the pro-

posals for planning controls on farm buildings could be viewed as "anti-farming".

The movement, founded 86 years ago by a Canadian farmer's wife and promoted in Britain through the Agricultural Organization Society and the Ministry of Agriculture, has long prided itself on its rural roots. But observers have detected a creeping suburbanization as the distinction between town and country grew blurred.

Mrs Mulliner added: "We are still basically a rural organization but a lot of us now are professionals' wives, not farmers' wives."

Significantly, however, the proposal for planning controls on farming is sponsored by one of the most rural of the county branches, Northamptonshire, after a big vote in its favour.

Overmanning on too many British ships

SHIPPING

A representative sample shows that in too many cases British merchant vessels are frequently some 25 per cent and more overmanned compared with their European competitors. Mr John Spratt, Under Secretary of State for Trade, told the Commons at question time. He added that this was something which the Merchant Navy, if it was to be competitive, could not continue. It should analyze those world markets where it could succeed.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer, an Opposition spokesman on trade (Barry and Morley, Lab), had asked what assessment he had made of the level of manning and other costs on United Kingdom merchant shipping compared with those of other European merchant fleets.

Mr Spratt: My assessment is that the greatest variation of cost between UK and other European merchant fleets arises from the cost of crewing. Manning is of course an important determinant of crew costs, as are rates of pay, frequencies of crew change and length of paid leave.

Mr Woolmer: Was *The Times* report of March 30 that the Government was considering a list of issues he has asked his officials to consider? If his purpose is much more wide-ranging, will he announce the total failure of the laissez-faire approach to shipping policy?

Would he ensure that a detailed inquiry is conducted impartially and jointly with all sides of industry under terms of reference that enable it to consider the problem of low-rate flags of convenience and detail governmental financial and non-financial support to merchant shipping in other countries?

Mr Spratt: I cannot be expected to keep in my head every word *The Times* printed on March 30. It said I was going to do proper analysis of the Merchant Navy by comparison with our best European competitors. That is what we are going to do.

Mr John Prescott (Kingston upon Hull, East, Lab): To say that he will conduct an inquiry is to say that he has arrived at the conclusion of 25 per cent overmanning.

Will he make sure that his inspectors do not continue to reduce the crew on small vessels while the inquiry is under way. Can he assure us that the Rayner inquiry, which recommended a cut-back on

constituents, will be disbanded and that he will abandon the idea of charging people for being rescued? Mr Spratt: I would hope to come to some conclusions on the Rayner review by about the end of June. During earlier questions about Mr Spratt's March statement on Government policy towards merchant shipping, Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C) had said that all sensible observers of the shipping industry agreed with Mr Spratt's refreshing and robust actions taken in support of the industry.

Mr John Spratt also praised the splendid performance of British Airways in the last year for their amazing turn-around from loss into profit, when he said he expected to receive British Airways' audited accounts for 1982-83 in the second half of June.

Mr John Martin (Glasgow, Cathcart, Lab) asked: Does he believe that a capital reconstruction or the writing-off of British Airways' debts is an essential prerequisite to fulfil his personal ambition to sell off British Airways to the private sector?

Mr Spratt: Well, there is certainly a personal ambition of mine, which is shared by the entire Government, to

Prescott: Abandon idea of charges for rescues.

Mr Spratt said that responses to his March statement had come from the General Council of British Shipping, the National Union of Seamen, the Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association, the Mercantile Marine Services Association and the Radio and Electronic Officers' Union.

I have (he added) also received 19 other letters, some of them duplicates.

Mr John Cunningham (Whitehaven, Lab): Few ministerial statements in this Parliament have been so roundly and universally condemned as his of March 18 on the British shipping industry. It was simply a political smokescreen for the complete absence of any new Government initiatives to halt the disastrous decline in our shipping industry.

When will he face up to the damage being done to British shipping and take specific and urgent action to help the industry, or is it simply to sink it?

Mr Spratt: In the last few weeks alone I have taken getting on for a couple of dozen measures to reduce the burden on the Merchant Navy. A full back on subsidy and aid to the small vessels will be the answer to the Merchant Navy. It must make itself more competitive vis-à-vis other merchant navies.

Talks on US legal moves over Laker

BRITISH AIRWAYS

A high-powered delegation from the Department of Trade starts negotiations in Washington tomorrow (Tuesday) to stop actions being pursued in the United States to put the blame for the end of Laker Airways on British Airways and British Caledonian, Mr John Spratt, Under Secretary of State for Trade, explained during a question in the Commons on the accounts for British Airways for the financial year 1982-83.

He was assured by Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on trade, that there was all-party support for the proposition that the United States claim to impose anti-trust legislation on an extra-territorial basis was indefensible.

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Mr Spratt: Well, there is certainly a personal ambition of mine, which is shared by the entire Government, to

sell off British Airways as soon as possible.

As for capital reconstruction, the Government has not made up its mind on this particular aspect yet.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer (Hastings, C): Whilst welcoming the substantial progress made by British Airways towards success in the financial world, would he bring to bear the maximum effort from his department on the United States Government to stop the stupid actions now being pursued by lawyers in the United States to put the blame for the unfortunate end of Laker Airways on British Airways and British Caledonian?

Mr Spratt: I am glad to have his praise for the splendid performance of British Airways in the last year, which I look forward to hearing from Labour MPs, on this amazing turn-around from loss into profit. A high-powered delegation from the Department of Trade starts negotiations in Washington tomorrow on the other matter.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer, an Opposition spokesman on trade (Barry and Morley, Lab): Labour MPs need no lessons on supporting nationalized industries. We are pleased to see nationalized industries prospering. But when a private Government seems determined to sell off nationalized industries as soon as they appear to be making a profit for the taxpayer.

Why does he not come clean and tell the public that it is his and the Government's intention to use up to \$800m of taxpayers' money to write off British Airways' debts in order to

sell off this airline after the election and not before to the private sector? Why does he not have the courage to tell the electorate that that is his intention?

Mr Spratt: I have already made clear what the Government's attitude on reconstruction is. I am delighted and surprised to hear that at just the Opposition are congratulating British Airways on their splendid turn-around from loss to profit.

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would not go down terribly well among Conservative MPs.

Mr Spratt: The Chairman of British Airways will take note of what he says. However, it is not the policy of this Government to force British Airways into making purchases they do not wish to do.

The Boeing 757, with its Rolls-Royce engines has a larger British content than the current Airbus.

Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on trade (Warley, West, Lab): when he discusses with the chairman the future of British Airways, will he assure him that there is all-party support in this House for the proposition that the United States claim to impose anti-trust legislation on an extra-territorial basis is indefensible and contrary to international law and would be resisted whichever Government is in power in the United Kingdom?

Mr Spratt: I am grateful for what he has just said. My officials begin in Washington tomorrow to point out to the United States that we already have an agreement. Burmuda II, under which these matters should be settled.

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Minister rejects call for 25pc tax band

FINANCE BILL

The tax system increasingly mirrored the class division in society, Mr Robert Sheldon (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab), an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs said at the beginning of the debate on committee stage of the Finance Bill.

He was moving an amendment to reduce the income tax on the first £750 of taxable income to 25 per cent from the present 30 per cent.

Mr Sheldon said that all tax changes introduced by the Government had increasingly mirrored the class division.

They were seeing an increasingly rigorous attitude applied to one class of society and an increasingly relaxed attitude to the other. Those two reactions could not be without severe social consequences.

They had to consider the Government's belief that reductions in taxation would recreate the market economy. The Government had been told that the rich would provide jobs; that tax relief would provide both incentive and reward and the good old nineteenth century would be recreated.

The lower paid had been promised lower taxes, but in their case they had failed to materialize. The reductions in higher rates had been intended to reduce tax avoidance, but he noted that tax havens were flourishing as never before. Tax avoidance schemes were being produced with ingenuity and the Government's enthusiasm to curtail them was rather less than had been shown by the previous Government.

The Labour Government had moved towards a smooth progression in tax rates by having rates of 25 per cent, 33 per cent and 40 per cent. If this Government had

Mr Robert Sheldon (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab): When he discusses with the chairman the future of British Airways, will he assure him that there is all-party support in this House for the proposition that the United States claim to impose anti-trust legislation on an extra-territorial basis is indefensible and contrary to international law and would be resisted whichever Government is in power in the United Kingdom?

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inflation. Many of those let out of the tax net would be drawn back into it.

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They lived in a fantasy world shared by the Prime Minister in which they believed that a reduction in the rate of taxation on a reasonable week's pay would automatically be followed by a great surge of effort, imaginative business decisions and a tremendous amount of unmet effort.

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Difficulties in making demonstrators pay

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government is considering the suggestion that demonstrators should contribute to the cost of policing their demonstrations, but the practical difficulties seemed formidable, Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said in the House of Lords during question time.

In reply to a question from Lord Beloff (C), Lord Elton said an estimated £252,000 in extra manpower costs would arise as a result of the anti-nuclear demonstrations in the Thames Valley Police area during the Easter period.

Lord Beloff: The loyal and patriotic citizens of the Thames Valley strongly disapprove of these activities which are conducted for the benefit of Soviet television, and believe it adds injury to insult to expect them to pay for them.

The investigations into the possibility of making the instigators

of such demonstrations pay for them should not be inhibited by references to freedom of speech which is in no way involved. Lord Elton: I have always thought the inhabitants of the Thames Valley, where I was born, were particularly strong on good sense in judging such matters.

At the requirement for payment, we are considering the suggestion that those who demonstrate should contribute to the cost of the Public Order Act 1936 and related legislation. We sympathize with the feelings expressed but the practical difficulties do seem formidable.

The Home Secretary hopes to announce the conclusions of the review in the not too distant future.

Parliament today Commons (2.30): Debate on Opposition motion on local government and community services. Lords (2.30): Housing and Building Control Bill, committee, first day.

The police Bill: 2

Critical hours in detention

A new statutory scheme governing detention of suspects in police custody, based by codes of practice on how suspects should be questioned and treated, forms the central part of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

Although the detention proposals have been significantly modified after widespread criticism, they remain one of the Bill's most contentious issues, particularly as the Bill omits the proposal of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure for nationwide tape-recording

Walesa goes back to his job fearing May Day rally arrest

Gdansk (AFP) - Mr Lech Walesa said yesterday that he believed he might be arrested for taking part in counter-demonstrations on May 1 called for by the underground leadership of Solidarity, the outlawed union that Mr Walesa heads.

Mr Walesa, in remarks to foreign correspondents as he reported to the Gdansk shipyard for his first day at work in seven years, said:

"I will be there, along with the working masses, but this demonstration could be a big trap for me," he said. "I run the risk of being arrested, not on May 1 but very soon afterwards, on the second, for example."

Mr Walesa later reported at the shipyard for a compulsory medical examination, before being allowed to return to his old job as electrician, for the first time since he was dismissed for union activities in 1976.

In the interview, Mr Walesa also said his return would "help rather than hinder" his activities as a union activist.

He confirmed that he would not join any of the new unions, which the authorities have tried to impose on the workers in the six months since Solidarity was outlawed. "I have taken an oath to remain faithful to Solidarity," he said.

He was asked about the arrest of Mr Jozef Piniur, one of the five underground Solidarity leaders and head of the

Wroclaw region. "It is one of the risks of the job," he said, "but there is no need to worry. There are plenty more Piniurs."

Mr Walesa was accompanied by his bodyguard. Despite a crowd of journalists and cameramen his arrival at the medical centre went almost unnoticed. The workers had already clocked in.

He said he was very happy to be allowed back to work and he expected a hearty greeting from fellow workers. He was later due to report for a health and safety training session.

● **WARSAW:** Polish authorities claim to have dealt Solidarity a severe blow by arresting Mr Piniur, who is its chief organizer in the industrial region of Lower Silesia, Reuters reports.

The official news agency PAP reported his arrest one week before the mass demonstrations called to mark May Day, the first major appeal for street rallies since martial law was suspended in December.

PAP said the arrest of Mr Piniur, one of five fugitive officials who make up a national coordinating committee, should make other underground figures think about their own future.

The arrest followed a secret meeting two weeks ago between the commission and Mr Walesa during which Mr Walesa said

they coordinated their positions.

PAP did not say when Mr Piniur was detained. His arrest was a timely boost for the authorities' campaign of police action and propaganda to prevent independent May Day celebrations and a boycott of official marches.

● **Clergy warning:** Cardinal Jozef Glemp has given a warning that May Day rallies called by Solidarity could get out of control and lead to trouble, the pro-government Catholic daily *Glos* Powszechny said yesterday.

The *Glos* issued the warning in a speech to more than 30,000 people in Gniezno on Sunday, it said.

It was the first authoritative comment by the church on an appeal by the underground for people to boycott traditional Communist marches.

The *Glos* was quoted as saying: "The church has never determined the way the working people's holiday is celebrated. But it is our duty to warn you against a danger for wherever manifestations take place events not intended by the organizers may occur."

Cardinal Glemp quoted the Pope, due to visit his Polish homeland in June, as "expressing the hope that, as a nation and state, we would move away from unrest in the direction of peace."

Austrian general election Greens robbed Kreisky of vital votes

From David Blow Vienna

The losses suffered by the ruling Social Democratic Party in Sunday's general election have brought an era in Austrian politics to an end. Thirteen years of one party rule by the Social Democrats are over, and Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, aged 72, the man who put his stamp on the whole period, has announced that, in his own words, he is taking his hat and going.

Just before the election, Dr Kreisky said he would resign if his party lost its absolute majority. With only a few votes still to be counted, the final result looks like being 90 seats for the Social Democrats, 81 for the conservative People's Party, and 12 for the small Freedom Party. In the old Parliament the Social Democrats enjoyed an overall majority of seven.

The swing is a significant one for Austrian politics, where traditionally only very small changes are registered from one election to another. Dr Kreisky attributed the swing partly to the two new environmentalist parties, neither of which secured a seat, and to an insufficient turnout by Socialist voters.

But there is little doubt that proposed new taxes and the vigorous electoral campaign conducted by Dr Alois Mock, aged 49, Opposition leader, also did much to sway voters. "It's not us down to size," was how one Austrian described the result and the news of Dr Kreisky's departure.



The strain shows: Dr Kreisky concedes defeat.

Whoever his eventual successor is, he is not expected to emulate Dr Kreisky's international role. At present the most likely candidate appears to be Dr Fred Sinowatz, aged 54, who has been Education Minister since 1971 and has shown no

strong interest in foreign affairs. But the future Chancellor is expected to depend on the shape of the new government. Yesterday the leaderships of all three parties were taking stock of their position in the light of the election.

FINAL RESULTS				
Party	1983		1979	
	seats	%	seats	%
SocDem	90	47.80	95	51.03
People's	81	43.21	77	41.90
Freedom	12	4.97	11	5.66
Communists	none	0.66	none	0.96
Lib Greens	none	1.66		
All List	none	1.27		

Dr Kreisky said he would stay on for the time being as leader of the Social Democrats and conduct any coalition negotiations. He is known to favour a coalition between the Social Democrats and the small Freedom Party and this is considered to be the most likely outcome.

However, some feel that the new Government should not exclude the only party actually to increase its votes in Sunday's election, the People's Party. The election was a personal triumph for the party leader, Dr Mock, who succeeded in reversing a steady decline in the party's electoral fortunes that had gone on since 1966.

Dr Mock yesterday described the election as "a historical turning point". He admitted that he had not achieved his principal goal of a relative majority, but added: "One achieves many goals in two stages". He said he would not insist that the People's Party be included in any immediate coalition. What mattered, he said, was that all the political parties should make a much greater effort to seek a common understanding than they had in the recent past.

Leading article, page 13

Nakasone under pressure for snap poll

Tokyo (Reuters) - Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, despite personal unpopularity with voters, may call a snap general election after the success of his party in weekend local elections, political analysts said yesterday. They said Mr Nakasone, whose small personal following has slumped after a series of controversial right-wing comments on defence policy, may have to yield to pressure for a general election from powerful sections of his conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

In mayoral elections in 145 cities, 99 of which were contested, LDP candidates maintained their previous record. But conservative independents backed by the LDP added eight more cities to the 94 they previously held.

The results will give Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the former Prime Minister, who controls the biggest party faction, fresh ammunition for his demand for a lower house election in June to coincide with upper house elections which are already scheduled.

Mr Tanaka wants both elections held simultaneously to increase turn out, which in the past has favoured the LDP. He also wants to cement his position as Japan's most powerful politician in case he is convicted in a court judgment expected later this year.

Philippines, Part 2: The Church

What makes priests into revolutionaries

DAVID WATTS, South-East Asia Correspondent, continuing his series of articles on the Philippines, reports from Bacolod on the poor state of relations between the Government and the Roman Catholic Church.

A little more than two years since the Pope delivered a powerful oration in support of the sugar workers of Negros island, three of its priests and six lay workers stand accused of murder and incitement to rebellion.

The charges demonstrate the low point that relations between Church and Government have now reached in the Philippines. The very success of the Roman Catholic rural programmes has accentuated internal divisions in the Church and left it fragmented and tactically outmanoeuvred by the Government.

A strong pastoral letter earlier this year, responding to government attacks demonstrated that deep feelings can unite the Church. But unity was brief. The Government can now congratulate itself on dramatically dividing the more progressive elements at least nominally headed by Archbishop Jaime Sin of Manila, from the rest of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

The Church has now broken off the regular meetings it had with the Government both at the national and provincial levels through the Church-military liaison committee, and there is little prospect of a resumption at present. If relations do improve they are likely to be on the Government's rather than the Church's terms.

The second Vatican Council's recommendation to tackle the issues of liberation and development is tailor-made for the Philippines especially at a time when national economic set-

back by promising jobs in the civilian home defence forces at double the regular salaries with extra rice supplies for good measure.

The attack on Father Gore and Father O'Brien is partly a provincial contest for influence between local politicians and the Church. But at its central theme of criticism, the Government now alleges that the Church and social action committees throughout the country are conduits for funds for the Communists from abroad. The recent arrests of Mr Carl Gaspar and a German colleague are principally aimed at proving this foreign connection.

Given the unwillingness of the Government to offer the sort of support that the Church is able to provide and the self-interest of local politicians, the activist element of the Church has become the friend and ally of most people without powerful connections both inside and outside the main urban centres. Nor is the revolutionary path an unusual one for Filipino priests: there is a wealth of historical precedent.

Six priests have joined the guerrillas of the Communist New People's Army (NPA) in northern Luzon together with an unknown number of lay workers, while presidential commitment orders are out against at least 20 nuns and priests for similar activities. Two nuns are accused of involvement in the murder of an official in Batangas province.

The Government alleges that Mr Gaspar, an anthropologist who heads a private "Center for Resource Development Foundation, in Davao, is running a front organization for the Communist Party. He has said that organizations from which he sought support have been the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development in London, Bread for the World in Germany and the Central Agency for Jesuit Financing of Development Programmes based in Holland.

The Marcos military is laying great stress on the amount of travelling that Mr Gaspar has done to solicit support, including a visit to an ecumenical meeting of Third World theologians in Europe in January and February.

Interest now centres on the outcome of these two, highly publicized cases. In the case of Father O'Brien and Father Gore, who are accused of murdering Mr Pablo Sola, Mayor of Kabankalan a year ago, the Government failed in an application for deportation. Unless a fresh deportation application is made, the charges will now have to be examined in court, although the NPA has already claimed responsibility for the ambush which killed Mr Sola.

But whatever the outcome of either case, and those pending against three other Catholics and two Protestant clergymen, the fragmentation of the Church in the face of government pressures presents a bleak prospect at a time when abuse of human rights is again rising.

Next: After Marcos

Hanoi admits boat shots

Hanoi (AFP) - Vietnam admitted for the first time yesterday that its forces had fired on an unknown boat heading for An Bang in the Spratly Islands the day that West German yachtsmen said their craft, the *Sidharta*, was shot at and sunk. Two men were killed, and four wounded, survivors, three West Germans and a Singaporean, were re-

ported by a Japanese-owned ship and taken to Hongkong on Friday. They had spent nine days drifting in the South China Sea without food or water.

An authoritative Vietnamese source said that a Vietnamese gunboat occupying the island had fired several shots warning the boat, then was "obliged to open fire" because the boat did not heed the warnings.

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The table shows you the high level of guaranteed life assurance you would have from the first day your plan goes into effect, the estimated cash value of your endowment after 10 years, and its estimated maturity value when you reach age 65. Remember, this £30 contribution (net) is actually equivalent to £35.30 (gross). The difference is made up by the taxman.

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19	35356	3567	127762
20	34179	3633	118067
21	32718	3648	110074
22	31424	3715	102459
23	30184	3782	95314
24	28941	3848	88617
25	27721	3913	82359
26	26551	3976	76441
27	25414	4037	70907
28	24282	4102	65765
29	23177	4165	60981
30	22579	4226	56463
31	21617	4284	52259
32	20672	4340	48329
33	19742	4393	44658
34	18740	4436	40938
35	17858	4433	37763
36	16993	4477	34807
37	16068	4481	31814
38	15251	4500	29267
39	14387	4480	26690
40	13610	4516	24503
41	12901	4489	22258
42	12195	4462	20195
43	11559	4492	18443
44	10932	4524	16819
45	10248	4503	15205
46	9638	4546	13834
47	8975	4533	12480
48	8367	4586	11302
49	7751	4587	10131
50	7196	4655	9145
51	6590	4673	8150
52	6041	4761	7305
53	5464	4803	6450
54	4951	4920	5724
55	4406	4988	4983

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Occupation: _____ Height: _____ ins Weight: _____ lbs

3. Please tick 'Yes' or 'No' to the questions below:

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OFFER CLOSES 9th MAY 1983

Guerrillas hold the upper hand in El Salvador, American officials admit

San Salvador (NYT) - The past six months have been a period of steady military progress for guerrillas in El Salvador, according to Salvadoran and United States officials.

In a series of successful operations, the rebels have attacked military and civilian targets without suffering substantial casualties, and the army has failed to strike back.

The guerrillas have shown they can move freely, reinforcing the view of many Salvadorans that the army cannot protect them.

Within the last month, they have attacked a food-processing plant belonging to a right-wing member of the constituent assembly in the western provincial capital of Santa Ana.

They have rampaged through the city of San Miguel where hundreds of soldiers are stationed, wrecking a sugar refinery, a bus terminal and two warehouses.

The insurgents have attacked a gold mine in the eastern department of La Unión, killing 10 soldiers, causing an estimated \$1m damage and stealing an unknown quantity of dynamite.

An American diplomat said last week: "It's got a lot of people concerned, and it's the main motivation for Reagan's speech."

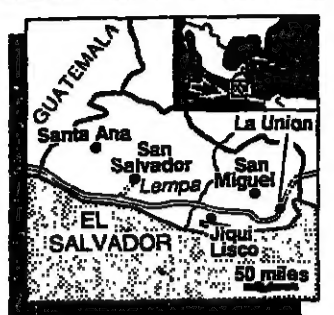
President Reagan, who is due to address a joint session of Congress tomorrow, is expected

to urge approval of the Administration's requests for increased military aid to the country.

Mr Deane Hinton, the American Ambassador, has attributed the guerrillas' success to the reluctance of Congress to send aid to train and equip new army units.

An extensive tour of central and eastern El Salvador over the weekend showed that many people believe time is on the insurgents' side.

A 10-mile section of the coastal highway that connects San Salvador to the rest of the



country was in rebel hands on Saturday. Along part of the road, between the Lempa river and the town of Jiquilisco, rebels lay in wait for military vehicles. Burned out buses and lorries littered the roadside, and nearly half the utility poles along the highway had been destroyed or damaged.

In Jiquilisco, Lieutenant

Manuel Cortez, the senior military officer, said his troops generally limited themselves to defending the village. Outlying areas were full of guerrilla camps.

Early this month, rebels killed 42 soldiers and captured 12 others in the fortified town of San Jose Cancasque in Chalatenango province. A week later, another guerrilla unit killed six men and captured more than 70 on the San Vicente volcano in the central part of the country.

A modest counter-attack by the army in Chalatenango produced little visible success, and an operation on the Guazapa volcano north of San Salvador, where hundreds of guerrillas were based, collapsed when troops withdrew before striking against rebel units they had apparently surrounded.

The army has been all but paralysed for the past three months by a continuing leadership crisis, which culminated last week with the resignation of General Jose Guillermo Garcia as minister of defence. American officials hope his successor, General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, will change the command structure.

The army clings to the traditional *tanda* system of promotions, in which officers are given command only after they have served a given number of years. Resistance to promotion on merit remains strong.

Portuguese leaders vote



Polling day: Senhor Mario Soares (above, left), leader of the Socialists, and Senhor Francisco Pinto Balsemão (below), the outgoing caretaker Prime Minister, casting their votes yesterday in Portugal's fourth general election since the revolution of April 25, 1974 which ended 48 years of dictatorship.



Spy wanted 'laser secrets'

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Lieutenant-colonel Yevgeniy Barnyantshev, the Soviet diplomat expelled last week, was trying to gather information on one of America's most sensitive secrets, military laser technology, according to *Newsweek* magazine.

Mr William Webster, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said in a statement on the expulsions of four Soviet officials that the FBI had failed separate attempts by them to obtain classified US government information.

But his statement concerning Colonel Barnyantshev, described as a Soviet military intelligence (GRU) officer, did not specifically refer to military laser technology. It said that on the night of April 16 Colonel Barnyantshev was detained by FBI agents as he tried to remove material from a "dead drop" hidden at the base of a tree in a rural area of Maryland.

It consisted of eight rolls of undeveloped 35mm film containing photographs of classified US Government documents.

A story in *Newsweek* under the heading "The Soviet spy sought 'Laser Wars' secrets" said that the film contained photographs of classified documents concerning the present state of US laser technology.

● BOMBS: A parliamentary panel will debate today whether West Germany should join other Western countries in expelling Soviet and East European spies, *Reuters* reports.

Rifkind raises prickly questions in Moscow

Moscow (Reuters) - Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, held talks in Moscow yesterday aimed at improving Anglo-Soviet relations which have been strained by recent expulsions and spying allegations.

Mr Rifkind, making the first visit by a British minister to Moscow in three years, met Mr Georgy Korniyenko, Soviet deputy Foreign Minister, for two and half hours of what British sources described as businesslike talks.

They concentrated on arms control, an issue dominating Moscow's thinking, but the British minister also raised the prickly questions of Afghanistan and Poland, British Embassy sources said.

Britain's expulsion of three Soviet citizens on spying charges last month set off a series of tit-for-tat expulsions which threatened to plunge relations to new depths.

Referring to the stalled Madrid conference on European Security and Cooperation, Mr Rifkind also pressed the case of the jailed dissident Anatoly Shcharansky, whose wife appealed to him before leaving London to intervene in the case.

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China seeks to improve its Eastern block ties

From David Bonavia, Peking

China is putting out feelers to all the Warsaw Pact countries for an improvement of mutual relations. Two high-ranking diplomats will visit East Germany, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria next month, around the same time as Mr Hu Yaobang, Secretary General of the Chinese Communist Party, visits Romania and Yugoslavia.

Mr Chen Xizhen, head of the Department of Soviet and East European Affairs and a Deputy Foreign Minister, will go to East Berlin, Warsaw, and Budapest, while one of his deputies will visit Prague and Sofia.

Although these visits will be scheduled as "embassy inspections", the two men will be available for talks with their counterparts or more senior leaders in the Warsaw Pact countries.

China now officially recognizes those countries as "socialist" after a period of nearly two decades when they were viewed as mere pawns of the "revisionist" Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia, Romania (and until a few years ago Albania) were China's only friends in East Europe in the aftermath of the Cultural Revolution, and it is natural that Mr Hu should visit them early in his tenure as head of the Chinese Communist Party.

A new trend is the cultivation of the five other countries, with which China is again opening cultural, commercial and sporting ties. These are seen as a prelude to the reopening of inter-party relationships, if the Soviet Union permits it.

Whereas Moscow is in pursuit of improvements in its own relations with Peking, it may not approve of China's going "behind its back" to be friendly towards the satellite countries.

On the other hand, Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, may want to avoid the appearance of dictating the degree of relations with China which the East European states may have.

The Kremlin would object strongly to any other member of the Warsaw Pact achieving the degree of equidistance which Romania has established between Moscow and Peking. So the most likely prospect is a gradual improvement of relations between China and East Europe in ways considered harmless to the cohesion of the pact.

China has need for much East European industrial equipment, and can pay for it with canned foodstuffs, textiles and other consumer goods.

Cultural links with East Europe will also serve well to assuage the mental hunger of Chinese intellectuals.

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Archangel's statue to take wing - for repair

Rome - The famous statue of the Archangel Michael which dominates Castel San Angelo in Rome, will take wing in June. It will be swept away by helicopter for a year's restoration work, Peter Nichols writes.

The statue is too big to carry through the staircases and chambers of the castle without damaging ceilings and walls.

It was placed there in 1752 and is at least the fourth known to have existed since Gregory the Great had his famous vision in AD 590 of the archangel sheathing his sword, which marked the end of a period of plague in the city.

Malta warning to British

Valletta - Dr Carmelo Mifed Boonici, the leader-designate of the Malta Labour Party and Mr Don Minto's potential successor as Prime Minister, has warned British workers that it was they who would suffer if they attempted to keep British ships from using the Malta drydocks for repairs.

Maltese workers would boycott British goods, he said, pointing out that Malta imported many millions of pounds worth of British goods annually. He was referring to the Cunani Countess which is to be refitted in Malta.

Angolan mines kill Zambians

Lusaka (Reuters) - At least 295 Zambians have been killed this year by mines planted in Angola along its border with Zambia in the war against Unita rebels, the *Nation* Mirror, a publication of an ecumenical church group, said.

It quoted a medical officer in the north-western Zambezi town of Zambesi as saying that 70 bodies had been delivered to the local hospital in the past month. Hospital staff at Mwinilunga, also near the border, said they had recorded a further 70 deaths from mine explosions.

Italy rules out bare bottoms

Rome (Reuters) - Bare breasts on the beach are fine for women as well as men but nakedness below the belt still upsets or excites the public, Italy's Supreme Court ruled.

The judges upheld a lower court decision clearing two topless women sunbathers by fining two others, a man and a woman, who revealed all on a Tuscan beach in 1978. They ruled that total public nudity should remain as likely to cause "unease, repulsion... or other excitement in an observer of normal sensibility".

Coalition search

Helsinki - President Koivisto of Finland has asked Mr Kalevi Sorsa (above) the outgoing Prime Minister, to form a new centre-left coalition government. Last week, Mr Sorsa, a Social Democrat, held preliminary discussions and recommended a four-party centre-left coalition including three non-socialist parties.

Court dress

Los Angeles - Although Mr John De Lorean, who is accused of cocaine smuggling, claims he is on the brink of financial ruin, his actress wife Cristina Ferrare, the actress and model, has commissioned a New York designer to make her an 18-piece wardrobe to wear at his trial in August. According to the *San Diego Union*, the cost of the outfits range from \$200 to \$1,500 (£130 to nearly £1,000).

Watches ban

Basle (AP) - A Swiss court issued a temporary injunction forbidding the display and sale in Switzerland of Hong Kong-made watches and bracelets alleged by Swiss watch manufacturers to be copies of their models. They were seized at an exhibition after complaints by six Swiss firms.

Greens gain

Zurich (Reuters) - Switzerland's "Green" party has won seats for the first time in the regional parliament of Zurich, the country's most populous canton. It won four seats last night when Sunday's election results became final.

First edition

Jakarta (AFP) - The first issue of a new English-language daily, the *Jakarta Post*, appeared yesterday in an eight-page edition and with an initial circulation of 10,000.

Lebanon withdrawal first priority for Shultz

From Robert Holloway, Cairo

There was a hint of a modest change in American attitudes towards the Middle East yesterday when Mr George Shultz began his maiden tour of the region as Secretary of State. Officials accompanying Mr Shultz confirmed that his first priority was to try to bring about an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, which the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, in a statement to the press, described as "a test of American credibility".

Speaking to reporters at Cairo airport, Mr Shultz confined himself to generalities. He did not refer to Mr Reagan's plan for self-determination for the Palestinians in association with Jordan, but US officials said that the Reagan Administration now recognized that Lebanon was "the place to start" if the plan were to succeed.

Israeli radio yesterday quoted Mr Shultz as telling reporters on air that he was willing to remain in the Middle East so long as there was any hope of obtaining an agreement on an Israeli withdrawal. But officials here suggested that the Secretary's sights were not set quite so high. He was prepared to work at it, they said, provided there was hope of accomplishing something reasonably soon.

If the Shultz mission turns into a shuttle reminiscent of the Kissinger days, the Secretary of State will doubtless travel to Damascus, despite the hostility



Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, with Kamal Hassan Ali, the Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister (right), at Cairo airport.

of official Syrian statements to date. "The American emissaries can bring only disaster and destruction," *Tishrin*, the organ of the Syrian Government said ominously yesterday. "The United States is comforting itself with illusions."

US officials accompanying Mr Shultz declined to comment on reports from Tunis that the central committee of Fatah, the dominant guerrilla group within the PLO, had voted in favour of reactivating talks on the Reagan plan between Mr Yassir Arafat,

the PLO and Fatah leader, and King Hussein of Jordan.

● JERUSALEM: Less than 48 hours before Mr Shultz was due to make his first official visit to Israel, the deep differences inside the country over the expansion of Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank were exposed yesterday during a special session of the Knesset, Christopher Walker writes.

The debate coincided with the disclosure that the rapidly expanding Israeli infrastructure

in the West Bank is to be further strengthened over the coming 12 months by new Communications Ministry plans to install 17 telephone exchanges which will add thousands of lines to settlements in the area.

The 120 seat parliament was recalled after the main opposition Labour Party tabled a motion condemning the Government's decision to use the thirty-fifth anniversary of Israel's independence last week to inaugurate a new Jewish

suburb near Nablus, the biggest Arab town under occupation. Mr Yacov Tsour, Labour deputy, angrily accused the ruling Likud coalition of abandoning any remaining pretence of moderation and of making the establishment of new settlements deliberately ostentatious.

Defending government policy, Mr Moshe Arens, the new Defence Minister - an outspoken hawk - claimed that Israeli settlement in the heart of the West Bank was a strategic necessity which was neither an obstacle to Jordanian participation in the peace process nor an action which closed off future negotiating options.

Mr Arens, who will play a key role in the talks with Mr Shultz's delegation which open here tomorrow, claimed that it could not be argued that the settlements prevented Jordan from joining the negotiations.

● PARIS: The guerrilla organization led by the Palestinian, Abu Nidal, has indicated in a rare interview with Western journalists that it will continue attacks on what it called its Zionist enemies and Palestinian traitors, *Reuters* reports.

Written replies to French journalists in Baghdad published yesterday, the group, which is believed to be responsible for some of the bloodiest bombings and shootings in Western Europe in recent years, said it would not attack French of Italian interests. However, the group was ready to attack Jewish targets

Change of heart on grain for Russia indicates Reagan may run again

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan's surprise announcement that he is reversing his ban on negotiations over a long-term grain agreement with the Soviet Union is seen here as a further indication that he intends to seek another presidential term next year.

The grain-producing states of the Mid West are of crucial electoral importance for anyone seeking the presidency. In 1980 President Carter fared badly in this area because of the embargo he placed on grain sales to the Soviet Union after the invasion of Afghanistan.

Although this embargo was lifted by President Reagan, he forbade a resumption of talks on a new long-term pact in protest against the Soviet Union's involvement in the military crack-down in Poland. American farmers, faced with huge grain stockpiles and

depressed producer prices, have been pressing the Reagan Administration to stop using grain as a political weapon. They now appear to have succeeded.

However, the President's announcement, made late last Friday, has been greeted with some cynicism by European allies as it comes when they are again coming under American pressure to curb trade links with the Soviet Union. The whole issue of East-West trade is likely to be a contentious issue at next month's Williamsburg economic summit.

Last year the Europeans raised objections because the United States was continuing to sell large quantities of grain to the Soviet Union while imposing sanctions on European

suppliers of equipment for the Siberian gas pipeline.

By making his announcement on Friday night, the President hoped to attract as little media coverage as possible, particularly in Europe. The timing was also intended to avoid criticism in the United States that a new long-term grain deal would send the wrong signal to Moscow.

Mr Reagan said his intention was to "reaffirm the United States' reliability as a supplier of grain". Because of the Administration's refusal hitherto to negotiate a new long-term deal, the Soviet Union has turned for its grain supplies to other countries, notably Australia, Argentina and Canada. As a result, its purchases from the United States have declined from about 23 million tons in 1980 to six million tons last year.

This is the minimum that the Russians are obliged to buy from the United States under the existing agreement. This agreement was signed in 1976 and expired in 1981 but was extended for one year for each of the past two years.

Last year President Reagan said he would not authorize a new long-term agreement "until the Soviet Union indicates that it is prepared to permit the process of reconciliation in Poland to go forward and demonstrates this desire with deeds and not just words".

Administration officials have been at pains to emphasize that the President's latest announcement was not linked to the situation in Poland. "We continue to be deeply concerned about developments in Poland," one official said.



Temple tour: Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips guided by a Shinto priest in the precinct of a 360-year-old Toshogu shrine at the mountain resort of Nikko, about 70 miles north of Tokyo. They were

on the second day of their visit to Japan. Earlier they had visited the Imperial Stock Farm at Takanezawa, 30 miles away, and last night attended a banquet at the British Embassy, AP reports.

Prince lays wreath in honour of Anzac dead

From W. P. Reeves

Wellington

The royal tour took a suitably solemn turn yesterday when the Prince and Princess of Wales attended an Anzac Day ceremony in Auckland.

Anzac Day commemorates the New Zealand and Australian participation in the abortive Gallipoli landing in 1915, and is a day of remembrance for all the country's war dead.

The Prince, in the uniform of a commander of the Royal Navy, laid the first wreath at the cenotaph below the steps of the imposing Dominion War Memorial Museum. It was a grey overcast morning with intermittent showers.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, giving the main address, said Gallipoli was not all tragedy and folly. The place pointed to a certain nobility of the spirit. "War always signals a failure in human society," he said. "But as Christians we believe there is some soul of goodness in things evil, would man observingly distil it."

He added "Even if we get our economic policies wrong we shall not perish as a people, but if we get human relationships wrong and lose our respect for other people and admiration for those who have given up life, health or their future for others we shall destroy ourselves."

Later in the day the rain lifted for a royal garden party at Government House in Auckland attended by a hundred guests.

Radicals try to oust US mayor

From Ivor Davis

Los Angeles

In the last few months Mrs Diane Feinstein, San Francisco's first woman Mayor, raised nearly \$300,000 (£318,000) to support a campaign aimed at keeping her in office.

It was to combat a recall election today spurred by a radical band of self-styled communists who scraped together \$5,000 (£3,100) to throw her out of office.

It may sound like taking a sledge-hammer to crack a nut but the Mayor, considered a rising star in Democratic Party politics, was taking no chances. She was leaving no stone unturned in her effort to fight off the challenge to her leadership coming mainly from a group calling itself the White Panther Party.

The Panthers, a small band of social mavericks, surprised everyone by coming up with 35,000 signatures - twice the number required on petitions seeking to oust the Mayor.

The recall move was begun in opposition to Mrs Feinstein's sponsorship of a tough gun control ordinance, which was passed but later overturned by the courts.

The group said they needed arms as protection against the police who harassed them because they were trying to practice their communist-type beliefs in the city.

At one time the Panthers gained support from the city's huge homosexual population, who were angered by Mrs Feinstein's veto of city benefits for live-in lovers, as well as a



Mayor Feinstein: A valuable rehearsal.

tenant rights organization seeking stronger rent controls, and small groups with various complaints against the Mayor.

But that support fell away in recent weeks mainly because the Panthers refused to work with anyone who did not regard gun control as the key issue. This diluted the opposition's efforts as big business rallied to support the Mayor with big donations to keep her in office.

So far, 70,000 absentee ballots were sent out - and 45,000 have been returned. "We would like to see the Mayor win 60 per cent of the vote," one of the Mayor's top campaign strategists said.

Mayor Feinstein's stock in San Francisco is very high. Last week, she jubilantly announced that the city had handed the 1984 Democratic convention, which means millions of dollars in income for the city.

Tonight, the Mayor is expected to be still in office and observers here say the recall may not, after all, be such a waste of time for her. Many consider it a valuable rehearsal for November, when she intends to seek another term.

Thai democracy back after 51 years

Bangkok (AFP) - After 51 years of military domination, Thailand began functioning as a total democracy yesterday with the opening of a new Parliament. However, the threat of restoring constitutional amendments favouring the Army in national affairs still looms over the tough negotiations between parties trying to form a ruling coalition.

King Bhumibol Adulyadej opened the first regular session of the Parliament elected on April 18, marking the arrival of a regime freed of the "special

classes" that had given the Army control over the last Government. These classes expired last week, in spite of the Army's efforts last month in Parliament to have them extended.

So far, the military has not intervened in the talks to form a coalition, but has made no secret in the past weeks of its intention to do everything possible to amend the constitution in its favour.

The parties opposing military intervention in politics, the Social Action Party and the

Democratic Party, topped the voting in the April 18 election but failed to win sufficient seats to form a viable coalition.

Two figures have emerged as leaders of the rival factions trying to create a new government to succeed the third coalition of General Prem Tinsulanonda, who has been Prime Minister since March, 1980. General Pramarn Adirakarn, aged 69, is head of the Thai National Party, and the other contender is Mr Kukrit Pramoj, aged 72, a former Prime Minister.

Prisoners of conscience

Pakistan: Irshad Rao

By Caroline Moorehead

On February 18 Mr Irshad Rao's third prison sentence in Karachi Central Jail ended but the former editor of the banned weekly paper *Al-Fatah* is still being held, and there is no news about his release.

He has had two nervous breakdowns in prison and his sight is failing. Doctors report that he cannot be given adequate treatment in his present conditions.

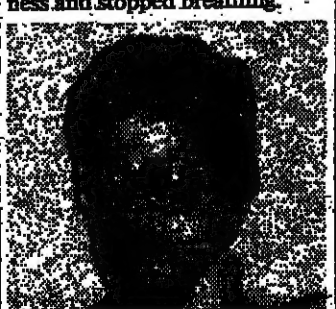
It is now more than two years since plainclothes policemen raided Mr Rao's home and the offices of *Al-Fatah*, confiscating papers.

Mr Rao, who had once been chief executive in charge of publications for the banned Pakistan People's Party, was arrested under a martial law order that prohibits political activities and the "excitement of disaffection toward Pakistan's armed forces".

The first five months of Mr Rao's imprisonment were spent in solitary confinement, during which he was reported to have been interrogated so violently that he had a nervous breakdown, resulting in hospital treatment.

In September, 1981, he was at last tried: the court found him guilty and sentenced him to one year's imprisonment on charges of printing objectionable literature and creating unrest.

Since the spring of 1982, Mr Rao's health has been deteriorating rapidly. Though only 36, his nervous system is said to be paralysed as a result of the harshness of his imprisonment. During a second nervous breakdown, he lost consciousness and stopped breathing.



Mr Rao: Two nervous breakdowns in jail.

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NORWICH PENSIONS

Two Swissair pilots stand trial for Athens crash

Athens (AP) - Two Swissair pilots went on trial here yesterday accused of negligence in the death of 14 passengers on their airliner, after overshooting the runway at Athens airport four years ago. A total of 154 were on board.

Charged with multiple manslaughter and endangering air traffic are a former Swissair captain, Fritz Schmutz, aged 54, and his co-pilot, Martin Devringer, aged 37. If found guilty they could be sentenced to up to five years imprisonment.

This is the first time for foreign airline pilots to go on trial in Greece after a fatal air accident. A Swissair spokesman said: "It is the first such legal proceeding Swissair has faced in its 52-year history."

The accident occurred on October 17, 1979, when the Swissair DC8 airliner arriving from Zurich landed in heavy rainfall, overshot the slippery runway and burst into flames. Fourteen of the passengers trapped in the rear of the aircraft died in the flames and another 19 were injured, several seriously.

The official inquiry report laid blame mostly on alleged pilot error, but it pointed out that the runway did not conform to international civil aviation patterns and could have confused the pilots.

The report also alleged that firefighting crews arrived late, and failed to enter the aircraft to rescue the trapped passengers. The trial continues.

SPECTRUM



In an extract from his new book, Paul Johnson identifies the emergence of the Third World as a

political force, reinterpreting the UN role in Suez and the Congo

The priest of relative morality

The new entity, which progressive French journalists were already terming *le tiers monde*, was based upon verbal prestidigitation, the supposition that by inventing new words and phrases one could change (and improve) the world.

There was the first world of the West, with its rapacious capitalism; the second world of totalitarian socialism, with its slave-camps, both with their hideous arsenals of mass-destruction. Why should there not come into existence a third world, arising like a phoenix from the ashes of empire, free, pacific, non-aligned, industrious, purged of capitalist and Stalinist vice, radiating with public virtue, today saving itself by its exertions, tomorrow the world by its example? Just as, in the nineteenth century, idealists had seen the oppressed proletariat as the repository of moral excellence — and a prospective proletarian state as Utopia — so now the very fact of a colonial past, and a non-white skin, were seen as title-deeds to international esteem. An ex-colonial state was righteous by definition. A gathering of such states would be a senate of wisdom.

The concept was made flesh at the Afro-Asian Conference held between April 18 and 24, 1955 in Bandung, at the instigation of Indonesia's President Sukarno. Some 23 independent states from Asia and four from Africa were present, plus the Gold Coast and the Sudan, both soon to be free. The occasion was the apogee of Nehru's world celebrity and he chose it as a brilliant opportunity to introduce Chou En-lai to the world. But the many other stars included U Nu of Burma, Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia, Mohammed Ali of Pakistan, Kwame Nkrumah, Africa's first black president-to-be, Archbishop Makarios of Cyprus, the black Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, and the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem.

It was calculated that 1,700 secret police were in attendance. Some of those present were subsequently to plot to murder each other; others to end their lives in jail, disgrace or exile. But at the time the Third World had not yet publicly besmirched itself by invasions, annexations, massacres and dictatorial cruelty. It was still in the age of innocence when it was confidently believed that the abstract power of numbers, and still more of words, would transform the world.

Among those present was the Egyptian president, Gamal Abdul Nasser, a handsome newcomer to the new humbug but already an accomplished rhetorician in his own right. He was an archetypal member of the "Bandung generation": adept at words, but not much else.

Once in power, Nasser was soon corrupted by it. Bandung completed his corruption, as it did for other young nationalist politicians. Why sweat at the thankless task of keeping a poor

country fed and clothed when the world stage beckoned? Bandung opened Nasser's eyes to the opportunities the age offered to an expert publicist and sloganizer, especially one prepared to play the anti-colonialist card.

Suez is often said to have dealt the final blow to Britain's status as a great world power. That is not true. The status had been lost in 1947. Suez simply made it plain for all the world to see. The real loser in the long term was the United States. Eisenhower appeared to act decisively, and he got his way fast enough. Britain came to heel. He preserved his reputation as a man of peace. But in the process he helped to prepare a mighty scourge for America's own back, in the shape of the tendentious concept of "world opinion" now, by Eisenhower's own act, transferred to the UN.

Until the early 1950s, the Americans had controlled the UN. Their first mistake was to involve it in Korea, especially through the forum of the General Assembly. Korea broke Trygve Lie, the Norwegian Secretary-General, who was loyal to the principles of the old Western alliance. He resigned when the Russians boycotted him and got the left to stir up his own secretary against him. At this point the Western democracies should have dropped the UN and concentrated instead on expanding Nato into a worldwide security system of free nations.

Instead, after much bad temper, the powers appointed a senior Swedish diplomat called Dag Hammarskjöld. A worse choice could not be imagined. He came from a highly successful family of public servants in a nation unceasingly aware that it had grown immensely prosperous by staying out of two world wars. He was guilt personified and he was determined that the West should expiate it. Severe, well-read, humourless, unmarried, he exuded a secular religiosity.



Dag Hammarskjöld formulated what became a characteristic United Nations double standard

It was characteristic of him and of the advanced Fifties good taste he faithfully reflected that he transformed the old UN Meditation Room, a plain and unpretentious chamber, into a dark and dramatic cavern, with striking perspective and lighting and, in its centre, a vast rectangular block of iron-ore illuminated by a single shaft of light. What did it symbolize? Relative morality, perhaps. It was Hammarskjöld's manifest intention to cut the umbilical cord which linked the UN to the old wartime Western alliance, and to align the organization with what he regarded as the new emergent force of righteousness in the world: the "uncommitted" nations. When Eisenhower turned on Eden at Suez, broke him, and handed the whole problem to the UN, he gave Hammarskjöld exactly the opportunity he had been waiting for.

The Secretary-General set to work to oust the Anglo-French force and the Israelis and replace them with a multinational UN peacekeeping contingent.

He saw a role for himself as a world statesman, driven by the engine of non-alignment. Hence, though affecting impartiality, he threw his weight entirely behind the Afro-Asian camp. That meant treating Israel not as a small and vulnerable nation but as an outpost of imperialism.

There was on record a 1951 UN resolution, passed before his time, calling on Egypt to allow Israeli vessels through the Canal. At no point did Hammarskjöld make any attempt to get the resolution implemented. He repeatedly declined to condemn Nasser's seizure of the canal, and other arbitrary acts. So far as he was concerned the Israeli attack and the Anglo-French intervention were wholly unprovoked acts of aggression. The Soviet invasion of Hungary, which took place under cover of the Suez crisis, he treated as a tiresome distraction. His friendliness to the Egyptians throughout, and his cold hostility to Britain, France and Israel, made it plain where his emotional

sympathies lay. He set his heart on the public humiliation of the three powers and he got it. In deploying the UN emergency force, to move into the vacuum created by the three-power withdrawal, he insisted that its presence was by grace and favour of Egypt: as he put it, "the very basis and starting-point has been the recognition by the General Assembly of the full and unlimited sovereign rights of Egypt". It had therefore to be withdrawn at Egypt's simple request, a right exercised by Egypt in 1967 as soon as it believed itself strong enough to destroy Israel.

Hammarskjöld thus bequeathed another Middle Eastern war to his successors. More important still, however, was his demonstration of the way in which the UN could be used to marshal and express hatred of the West.

On May 30, 1967, Biafra seceded from Nigeria in a tragic conflict which



Left: Hammarskjöld is warmly greeted by General Mobutu during a visit to Leopoldville in the midst of the Suez crisis of 1956



Centre: The scene moves to the Congo. General Mobutu meets Hammarskjöld at Leopoldville a week before the latter's death in 1961

divided Africa. Only Tanzania, Zambia, Gabon and the Ivory Coast backed Biafra. The other African states supported the Nigerian regime, most of them, because they feared similar secessions which they calculated would work to the advantage of the "imperialists". The political philosophy of African nationalism was based upon a theory of colonialism which was not merely false but fundamentally and systematically misleading. It was bound to lead to disillusion and war.

Unfortunately, in the watershed years 1959 to 1960, when the colonial powers began to pull out of Africa at a rapidly accelerating rate, this false theory became the prevailing wisdom of the UN. The critical moment came when Belgium was persuaded against its better judgment to pull out of the Congo on June 30, 1960. Belgium had run this vast and valuable though primitive region with excessive political paternalism but, from 1920 onwards, with increasing success.

What the system had produced, in its last frantic years of impending abdication, was a crop of professional politicians, all concealing deep tribal affiliations beneath a veneer of European-style ideology. The three most important, Joseph Kasavubu, the President, Patrice Lumumba, the Prime Minister and Moïse Tshombe, premier of Katanga, the richest of the provinces, were bitter tribal and populist rivals. All three were volatile personalities but Lumumba was by far the most unstable. He was a former postal clerk and brewery worker turned full-time political agitator, and now Minister of Defence as well as head of the government. The Belgian legacy was fragile enough but it might conceivably have lasted a few years. Lumumba, however, chose the independence ceremonies to make a rabble-rousing attack on white rule; five days later on July 5 the garrison in Leopoldville, the capital, mutinied and threw out its white officers, prior to surging forth to loot, rape and kill Europeans and Africans alike.

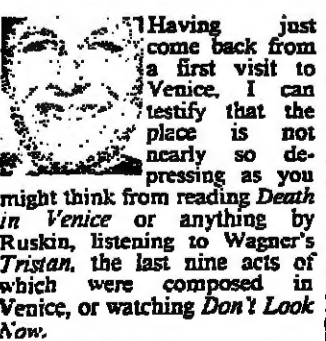
The Belgians waited for five days, while the terror spread and increased, and while Hammarskjöld, at UN headquarters in New York, did nothing, though his own UN staff in the Congo were thrown out of their hotel rooms at gunpoint by the exultant mutineers. Only on July 10 did the Belgians send in their own troops to restore order. Immediately Hammarskjöld saw his chance, turned angrily and decisively on the Belgians, and on July 13, in front of Security Council, denounced their troops as a threat to peace and order.

If Hammarskjöld had done nothing and allowed Belgium to restore order, the crisis might have been quickly resolved, with the minimum of bloodshed. Instead the Secretary-General immediately set about creating and deploying a UN army, taken not from the Security Council powers (as the UN Charter clearly intended) but from the non-aligned states from whom Hammarskjöld drew his following.

In this forlorn endeavour, Hammarskjöld paid scant regard to the lives, black or white, he was risking. Cold, detached, consumed by an overwhelming ambition masquerading as an ideal, he thought in terms of a political abstraction, not human beings. He formulated what became a characteristic UN double-standard: that whereas the killing of Africans by whites (as at Sharpeville in South Africa on March 21, 1960) was of international concern and a threat to peace, the killing of Africans by Africans (or of whites by Africans, or of Asians by Africans or all three races by Africans) was a purely internal matter outside the purview of the UN. Thus the UN became identified with a form of inverted racism, which was to cost an incalculable number of African lives over the next two decades.

Even in Hammarskjöld's time the toll was heavy. His UN army became a source of further instability rather than the reverse. His protégé, Lumumba, tried to set up his own secessionist state, fell into the hands of the Congolese army, now controlled by a former NCO, "General" Mobutu, was tossed to the Katangese and murdered.

The Secretary-General lost his emotional detachment and became obsessed with the need to revenge the death of the king he had failed to make by using his UN troops to expel the whites from Katanga and change its regime, the first instance of what might be termed imperialism by international bureaucracy. But in the process he made the error of leaving the abstract make-believe world of his UN offices and descending into the real world of the Congo basin. It cost him his life when his aircraft hit a tree near Ndola in September 1961.



Just one Canaletto, give it to me

MOREOVER... Miles Kingston

money for a good time; what attracted my attention to them was that after having dined, paid and left, they came back again half an hour later for another equally cheerful dinner. Bemused by the idea of anyone, no matter how well-heeled or hungry, going through a meal twice in one evening, I ventured to ask one of them if they were part of some gourmet or perhaps gourmand dining club, or even engaged in some wager.

"You could say that," he answered in a soft American accent. "We're a research team for a new American publication."

Testing a new anti-dyspepsia pill? Seeing if you can get into Italian restaurants without booking? Trying to get a discount on a dinner, if you eat twice?

"No," he said. "We are doing research for *Europe on \$10,000*

a Day. It's a new up-market guide aimed at the very rich and very choosy. The only reason we came back for another meal is that we haven't spent our quota for the day yet. Waiter — champagne, please!"

Apparently there is a small but significant part of the market which is still prepared and eager to spend a lot of money, the kind of person who thinks nothing of going by the Orient Express or putting in a challenge for the America's Cup. *Europe on \$10,000 a Day* (price £300) will be for them, when the research is complete.

"For instance," said my informant, "we aim to cut out all the weary trudging round the churches of Venice by buying

an exclusive church. We were having a look at Santo Domingo della something or other this morning, and it seems like a nice little place for our readers: one Tintoretto, one Carpaccio and a little old lady praying. She said she'd be quite happy to do it full-time. If the deal goes through, we purchase the church, and open it only to owners of the guide."

But surely the readers won't be spending anything like \$10,000 if they just go in the church and come out again?

"You haven't seen the offertory box. It takes only \$1,000 bills."

motorise them up to international speedboat standard; to take over a palazzo on the Grand Canal and convert it into a hotel as a more chic alternative to Cipriani's; to arrange special facilities at the best restaurants whereby guests will be charged 300 per cent service; and to buy a canal.

"Buying a canal is proving trickier than we thought, as the title deeds are in some confusion and the present owner of the one we're after seems to have died in 1587. It's sort of tough dealing with extinct families, as they don't take Diner's Card like most people."

The eventual aim of the group is to ensure that when their members come to Venice, they can see all they want to see without encountering a single other tourist or indeed a Venetian, apart from waiters, if indeed there are any Venetians

apart from waiters and gondoliers, he added. Promising to buy a copy of the book if it ever came out, I left him, feeling somewhat thoughtful.

I encountered the group once more, passing merrily over the Accademia Bridge carrying a large package.

"Hi!" said my friend. "We've been tackling the art heritage problem this morning."

"You mean, you're buying the bridge, bit by bit?"

"No, no. But you know how when you go round an art gallery you really only look at one painting properly? Well, for advice on how to spend \$10,000 a day, we've come up with a new idea: go round an art gallery and buy a painting."

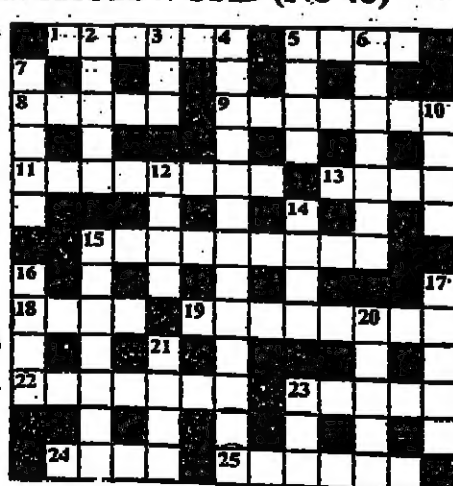
"But surely, if the paintings are bought, nobody can look at them?"

"They can if they stay at our hotel. One in each bedroom, that's the rule."

Say what you like, American know-how is still the best in the world.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 46)

- ACROSS
1 Capar about (6)
2 Mistle (4)
3 Looked at (5)
4 Frustrated (7)
11 Distance recorder (8)
13 Not fat (4)
15 Military unit (4,5)
18 Surprised cry (4)
19 Inhabitant (8)
22 Paper art (7)
23 Pours forth (5)
24 Giant (4)
25 Incidents (6)
DOWN
2 Right hand page (5)
3 Acid (1,1,1)
4 Value for money (4,9)
5 American Indian (4)
6 Oriental (7)
7 Under way (5)
10 Means (4)
12 Not difficult (4)
14 German wife (4)
15 Striking lightly (7)
16 Alone (4)
17 Angry (5)
20 Not suitable (5)
21 Renown (4)
23 Understand (3)



SOLUTION TO No 45
ACROSS: 1 Communicant 9 Quibble 10 Ratio 11 Lad 13 Ides 16 Area 17 Oil can 18 Amid 20 Plus 21 Stripe 22 Elms 23 Toss 25 She 28 Abode
DOWN: 2 Olive 3 Milla 4 Noel 5 Card 6 Natural 7 Equilateral 8 Solar system 12 Arabic 14 Sod 15 Clutch 19 Irksome 20 Pet 24 Obits 25 Scer
26 Edit 27 Uric

Mail Order Fashion by Suzy Menkes

Postman's knock with that touch of class

Mail order in Britain is as much a class divider as how you hold your knife or how you speak. The figures are vast and indigestible like the glossy catalogues. One in three adults in Britain buys from a catalogue each year. Total sales add up to two thousand million pounds. In 1979, mail order outpaced retail sales in department stores. One in four parcels handled by the Post Office is a mail order item.

Yet I would wager that virtually no *Times* reader ever sees one of the hefty catalogues from the big six groups which account for 80 per cent of mail order sales (which have actually been hit hard by the recession).

Upper-class mail is the new and growing sector. It means small companies selling directly to the public and not offering the credit facilities which were the original point of mail order and the reason why it is dominated by the C and D classes, who don't have friendly bank managers and credit cards.

Middle-class mail order sells on a different kind of credit: on the good will generated by small companies, mostly fulfilling a particular need (especially in the children's clothes or for awkward sizes). These customers are then in the words of Finn Kennedy of Clothkits "looked after and cherished".

The secret of selling directly to your public is to find it. Getting (or sometimes buying) a list of likely customers is essential and that is where the shops that are already in the market place can score.

This season sees the launch of Laura Ashley's first image-building catalogue for their clothes (as opposed to the existing furnishing catalogue). Against a suitably pastoral backdrop, and interwoven with pictures of Welsh washerwomen pegging out sheets (you can buy those too), this is a catalogue to underline the Ashley image of rural escape. You buy it from their shops or from bookstalls for 50p.

Ever since Terence Conran succeeded in turning the Habitat catalogue into an arbiter of taste and style (annual sales 750,000 at 50p), shops and stores with an image and a name, have seen the potential of producing an editorial product. This season also sees the launch of a glossy magazine from Harrods, sent out free to their 80,000 account customers and for sale at £1.25. For that you get general articles on royalty, wine or dieting, a lot of full page ads, and extensive and expensive mail order. They are already boasting a circulation bigger than that of *Vogue*.

At a less lavish level, there is the "newsletter" sent out to existing customers, often to encourage them to come into the shop, rather than actually to order by post. Paddy Campbell in Gees Court, London, who runs a small shop based on personal service, her personality and her own designed clothes, sends out newsletters inviting

customers to send for samples of fabric and ultimately garments - if they cannot come in to browse.

A pack of high fashion "postcards" showing men's and women's clothes and their well-known leather accessories is a new mail order idea from Mulberry. (Send a large size to Mulberry Company mail order, Chilcompton, Bath.) Inca, those specialists in Peruvian knitwear, have also just started a mail order service with a brilliantly coloured leaflet of knits, accessories and rug. (Send large size to Inca, 45 Elizabeth Street, London, SW1.)

I see a difference in style between the companies who are trying to promote an image and those who are just offering a service. Thus, Mothercare's catalogue remains a practical portrayal of the merchandise (although the Conran connexion may change that). The Pollyanna catalogue suggests rather a particular life style.

We have tried to veer away from the chain store image of playing safe," says Pollyanna's Peter Coll, who distributes 200,000 catalogues and operates one London shop.

Peter Simon of Monsoon says that his catalogue is deliberately designed to draw customers to their 15 shops. This season shows a radical change from the gently photographed ethnic clothes in romantic locations that was the hallmark of the first three catalogues, and Mr Simon admits that he will be going back to image-building for next season.

One strong thread links the varied brochures and catalogues aiming at the middle-class market: they all rely very heavily on sophisticated clothes photographed in rural settings, with more straw per picture than I see in a year. This country bias partly reflects the country customers.

Lady Northampton's upper-class waterproof boots (sold first by mail through magazines) is just one example of the well-born doing well out of things they want themselves and then sell to their friends.

"We realized very early on that we were a middle-class business," says Finn Kennedy, who set up Clothkits mail order kits business for children 15 years ago and now prints half a million catalogues and has a turnover of £4m. They now have four shops - in Lewes where they are based and in the unashamedly county towns of Bath, Guildford and Oxford. Mr Kennedy admits that Clothkits has stuck to a slightly ethnic image that reached the crest of the fashion wave in the Seventies. The 130,000 loyal customers who keep coming back for more (including grown-up as well as children's clothes) are a testament to their success and also to his key.



A DROP-WAIST DRESS

The double-image, giving two different versions of the same dress, on different models is one of the tricks of the mail order trade. This ice cream striped short-sleeved cotton dress has a square-cut top and dropped gathered mid-calf skirt. In two colour variations of pink/mauve/blue with white or green/yellow/mauve with white. Self-coloured belt not shown. Sizes eight to 14, from the Monsoon Diffusion range £14.85 from Monsoon shops in South Molton Street, Covent Garden, and London NW3, W.6, Cambridge, Guilford, Oxford, Salisbury, Bath. Colour catalogue available from 75 Filmer Road, London SW6.



E LIBERTY PRINT DRESS

Tana lawn floral print dress with Puritan collar, by Mary Quant for Pollyanna. In blue with white or coral with ecru. Sizes: age four or six £17.50, ages eight to ten £19.50. Full colour catalogue 75p from Pollyanna Children's Wear Ltd, The Old Coppermill, Coppermill Lane, Wimbledon SW17 0BN. Mainly sportswear.

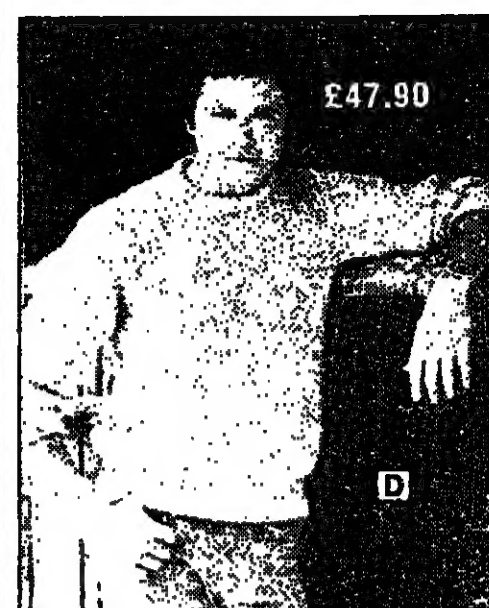


F CAT AND MOUSE PRINT

Tough cotton dungaree kit with all trimmings. Sizes nine months to two years, from £3.95. In sky blue on canvas green, sea green on granite blue, navy on poppy, peach on nut brown. Colour catalogue including adult and home accessories from Clothkits, Dept TN2, 24 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 2LB.

B SPECIAL OCCASION DRESS
Full-length floral dress with flounced sweetheart neckline in speedwell blue or shell pink flower print. In machine washable cotton lawn with lined bodice and flounce. Sizes 10 to 16. Price £45.95 plus £2.50 p and p from Laura Ashley Limited, Mail Order Department, Box 5, Carno, Powys, Wales, SY17 5LQ. Catalogue 50p from Laura Ashley shops and bookstalls.

C This dress is the quintessential Laura Ashley image which is echoed throughout their new full-colour catalogue which contains 16 outfits in a variety of different styles and colourways. There are also sections on linen, home accessories, patchwork packs and toiletries; all photographed in rustic settings and locations to give a magazine flavour.



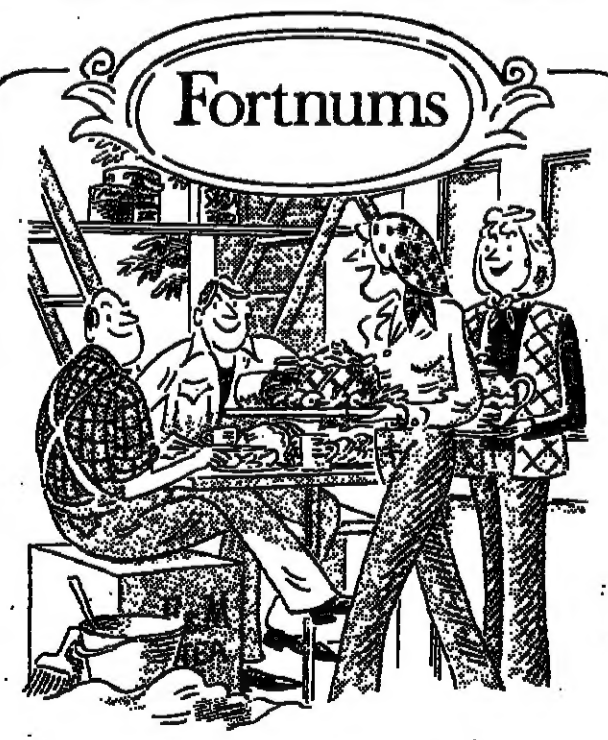
D HAND KNIT WOOL SWEATER

Textured knit man's sweater with ribbed shoulder detail. Made by hand in Wales. £47.90 in cloud grey, natural, navy and brick red in chest sizes of 36 to 44. From a selection of men's sweaters in the Naturally British catalogue available from 13, New Row, Covent Garden, London WC2. Send large s.a.s. Naturally British, in their shop in London and in Boston USA deliberately aim to sell handcrafted goods in natural materials. Their first colour catalogue, new this season, has a selection of knitwear and hand-made Victorian lace blouses for women. There are also a wide range of other goods from Floris toiletries to oak refractory tables. The selection includes jewelry and home accessories, toys and even books. Some aimed at high class tourists.

A small list of specialist children's mail order. Please send large size.
SCALLYWAGS, The Glebe, Nash Road, Whaddon, Milton Keynes MK17 0NQ. Practical but interesting clothes, many of them reversible, designed by mother of five Maggie Stewart. Ages one to six.
SUNDAY BEST, The Old Rectory, Stoodleigh, Tiverton, Devon EX16 9PJ. Hand-smocked dresses and baby suits in Liberty fabrics with classic smocked party dresses from £22.10. Run by two partners with five girls between them. Ages six months to 10 years.
PRECIOUS LITTLE, The Old Coach House, Binfield, Nr Bracknell, Berks. Classic children's wear in quality cottons or

viyella with hand-smocking and fine details. Also made to measure and will make up customers' own fabric.
MADCAP KITS, 53 Head Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1NH. Tough dungarees and pinafores with a rough and tumble country flavour. All in kit form with ready-made coordinates. Six months to 12.
COSY COMFORT, 27 St Nicholas Street, Ipswich. Either kits or ready-made rough and practical children's clothes from six months to 13.
ROSALIE LANE, Wayside, Sweetbush, Crowborough, Sussex TN6 3SS. Unusual quilting and appliqué as kits or ready-made. Especially waistcoats and jackets. Children from four and adults.

HUNTSMANS
Hand Tailored Spring/Summer Range of Ready-to-Wear
Mens clothing now available
11 SAVILLE ROW



— an occasional commentary on Important Events — Spring Cleaning

Henry can't stand being decorated. He goes to Lords for the opening of the cricket season, and leaves me to get on with it.

Fortunately I never have the slightest trouble finding first class painters and decorators. All you have to do is look after them properly.

I go to Fortnum's and stock up with York ham sliced on the bone, and traditional game pie prepared in their own kitchens.

Then I make a large pot of Breakfast Tea six times a day, with Fortnum's biscuits at elevenses, and Dundee cake at tea time. For lunch I give them a choice of smoked salmon or ham or game pie with *Sutton* cheese to follow.

And do you know they come back year after year just like the swallows.

Fortnum & Mason
such stuff as dreams are made on
Piccadilly London W1A 1ER. Telephone 01-734 8040

THE OTHER CHIC

The idea that beauty is more than skin deep - that you are what you eat or you look how you feel - has become part of the philosophy of modern living.

It was planted in the organic soil of the seventies, first harvested by the alternative society and is now generally accepted.

I have never seen this theory given more cogently than in *The Joy of Beauty*, a new book by Leslie Kenton, Health and Beauty Editor of *Harper's* and *Queen* magazine since 1974, when her ideas about good looks coming from within seemed revolutionary among her profession.

You have to get two thirds of the way through this fat book (500 pages) before you reach the area that most people think of in terms of beauty: the face and how to cherish and adorn it.

Leslie Kenton says she is writing about beauty of the body and of the spirit and her theory is that you should find a happy way of living, a comfortable way of standing and learn the secret of coping with stress - before you start on the powder and paint.

This theory is very persuasive, and the format of the book - discussing first your feelings about yourself and exercise for the body - is sensible.

The author tends to offer every theory going. Surely medical opinion discounts the idea that vitamin supplements are necessary. For western women eating a normal diet? If any woman has ever lost weight after having "cold" water sprayed up and down the fronts and backs of her legs and hips

four times each morning", I should like to hear from her. But I learnt a lot from Leslie Kenton that does make sense. (She is especially sound on the sections on coping with the sun and delaying the process of aging on the skin.) I also thought a lot about the philosophy of beauty as a reflection of your life.

The Joy of Beauty, by Leslie Kenton, Century Publishing Co. £9.95.

"The baby boom is getting wrinkled", I was told by Juvena, the Swiss beauty and skin care company whose *Exclusives* range was introduced (exclusively to Harrods) last week.

Whatever you do about your soul to improve your appearance, you need to stop your skin looking like old shoe leather. Juvena makes some strong claims for "Unibogen", the biological activator in their skin care products. The aim is to accelerate skin regeneration, and thus make an aging skin function as a younger one. Their

Highly Active Unibogen Concentrate (priced at an impressive £39 for 30ml) has an impressive record (accepted by the relevant British authorities for the doubters) of 28 per cent regeneration after a fortnight and 64 per cent after a month. Other *Special Preparations* in the Juvena range at Harrods include a Super Rich Throat Refining Cream (£15.50), as well as more basic care and cosmetics.

A practical, well-illustrated booklet about modern ways with hair has been produced by the unlikely combination of sensible M & S and a high-flying hairdresser, John Frieda.

The section on blow drying and other trade tricks like finger lifting, diffuser drying and twisting, make this a book that should help women get a salon style at home.

I was surprised that men are given so little space, although there are some brief but sensible words about getting children's hair cut. John Swannell's glamorous photographs and especially Judith Cheek's graphic illustrations (see below) spell out a clear message. *Hair Care* by John Frieda, £1.50 from Marks and Spencer stores.



Two hairstyles to conceal a narrow forehead



PRESCRIPTIVES PUTS SUN SAFETY FIRST - ALWAYS!

At PRESCRIPTIVES, sun safety is a year-round watchword. Enjoy a worry-free good time in the sun with PRESCRIPTIVES Sun Safety. For the first days out, and for quick-to-burn areas such as the nose and knees. Out door Protective Cream (SPF 17). For all over, any day sun screening action. Outdoor Protective Lotion (SPF 7). Nude Lip Gloss (SPF 12) provides natural colour plus the protection of a sunscreen. And Moisture Barrier Body Lotion for soothing and smoothing protection after the sun. PRESCRIPTIVES lets you feel safe in the sun, at last.

PRESCRIPTIVES Sun Safety is your free gift with any two treatment purchases. Available from now until Saturday 16th May 1983. One gift per customer, while stocks last. Come to the PRESCRIPTIVES counter today.

PRESCRIPTIVES at
Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1.
Tel: 01-235 5000.



The Guardian said of the Bentley Mulsanne Turbo that it is "almost indecently fast."

It travels from 0 to 60 mph in 7 seconds. It will travel from 60 to 90 just as quickly.

It will push you back in the seat even when accelerating through 100 mph to its top speed in excess of 135 mph.

Such a remarkable performance is obtained by increasing the light alloy V8 engine's power output by 50% with a single turbocharger.

Consequently, Avon had to develop 235/70VR rated tyres specifically for the Bentley Mulsanne Turbo.

And a unique electronic knock sensor, which listens continually to the engine, was specially engineered and fitted to the car to prevent detonation.

Yet for all its increased power, the engine runs not one revolution faster and the traditional refinement of the car has not been compromised.

It is as quiet to travel in as a Bentley has ever been.

It is also as comfortable at 135 mph as it is at 50.

To say the Bentley Mulsanne Turbo is rare is understatement. No more than 125 people in Britain will own one by the end of this year.

If it is standing still, you will recognise it by the famous radiator. This is the only Bentley ever to have its radiator painted the same colour as the body of the car.

It may also display discreet 'turbo' badges on the front wings. If not, rest assured, the Bentley Mulsanne Turbo will go just as fast without them.

Enthusiasts for the marque say this car truly reflects traditions created by Bentley at Le Mans, Brooklands and Montlhéry.

The makers simply state that in the Bentley Mulsanne Turbo, the Silent Sports Car returns.

THE SILENT SPORTS CAR R - E - T - U - R - N - S

BENTLEY MOTORS LIMITED - CREWE - CHESHIRE

THE TIMES DIARY

Douane roaming

If the threat of a strike by customs officers at Dover is carried through, do not be deluded. Stories of a free run for smugglers are put about only to tempt the gullible. In November 1977, as consumer affairs correspondent of this paper, PHS was dispatched to France for the express purpose of returning with as much duty free booty as a Citroen GS could carry. Orders were taken around the office, and I loaded up with 170 litres of French wine, 17 litres of spirits and a whopping bundle of cigars and cigarettes. No one else on the ferry would believe my claim that there would be no customs on duty when we arrived at Dover, and they were right. When we docked I was met by three senior officers who had patriotically remained on duty. They checked the size of every bottle, weighed the cigars, measured the cigarettes, and I ended up with a bill for £238. My whisky cost twice what it would have done at home.

Hermetic

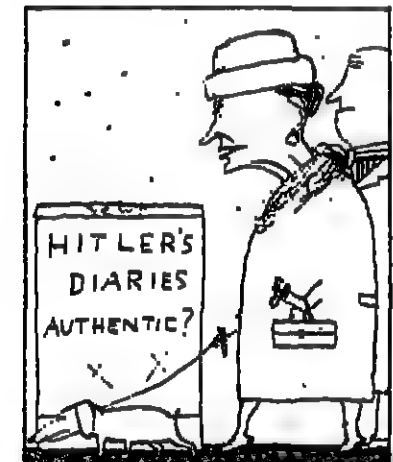
An incident, about which the Ministry of Defence is curiously reticent ("we will neither confirm nor comment") occurred when the carrier Hermes was on its way back from victory in the Falklands last summer. Passing the mother ship to a Soviet fishing fleet, the Hermes crew were astonished to see their Russian counterparts lining the decks and raising a cheer as a professional salute for a job well done. "The incident is neither recorded nor recalled by anyone on board the ship", the MoD says - but I know otherwise.

More from the National Trust shop: a pottery mug, decorated with a perfect, but blue, cowslip and with a minute label on the bottom, "Made in Japan".

At the mouth?

I do not know who or what they have been pushing out of TV - most recently, but it has had a direct effect on the water of Camden Lock. Yesterday it was covered in a repulsive head of white foam. The official explanation was to lay the blame on "a load of rubbish", which is what some people have thought of the show so far.

BARRY FANTONI



"Of course they are. How else could he and I both share the same view of that frightful Goebbels?"

Plane song

Announcing their new open-air season in Regent's Park yesterday, officials of the New Shakespeare Company were apprehensive about plans to stage two eighteenth-century English operas there for the first time. The generic classification of the works as "pastoral" does away with the need for scenery, but if the heavens open what about the harpsichords, sackbuts, psalters, and tinkling cymbals? Prophecically, much of the ceremony announcing the new season was rendered inaudible by birdsong and overflying aeroplanes.

No flap

Walter Slezak, the actor, whose obituary we published yesterday, was bequeathed an immortal title for his autobiography, published in 1962, by his father, the Czech tenor Leo Slezak. It was the most famous of all lines of unscripted Wagnerian dialogue. Slezak sang his *Lohengrin* aria greeting the swan drawing the boat which would transport him to heaven, turned to step into the boat and found that it had already gone. Turning to the audience he demanded: "What time's the next swan?"

No kidding

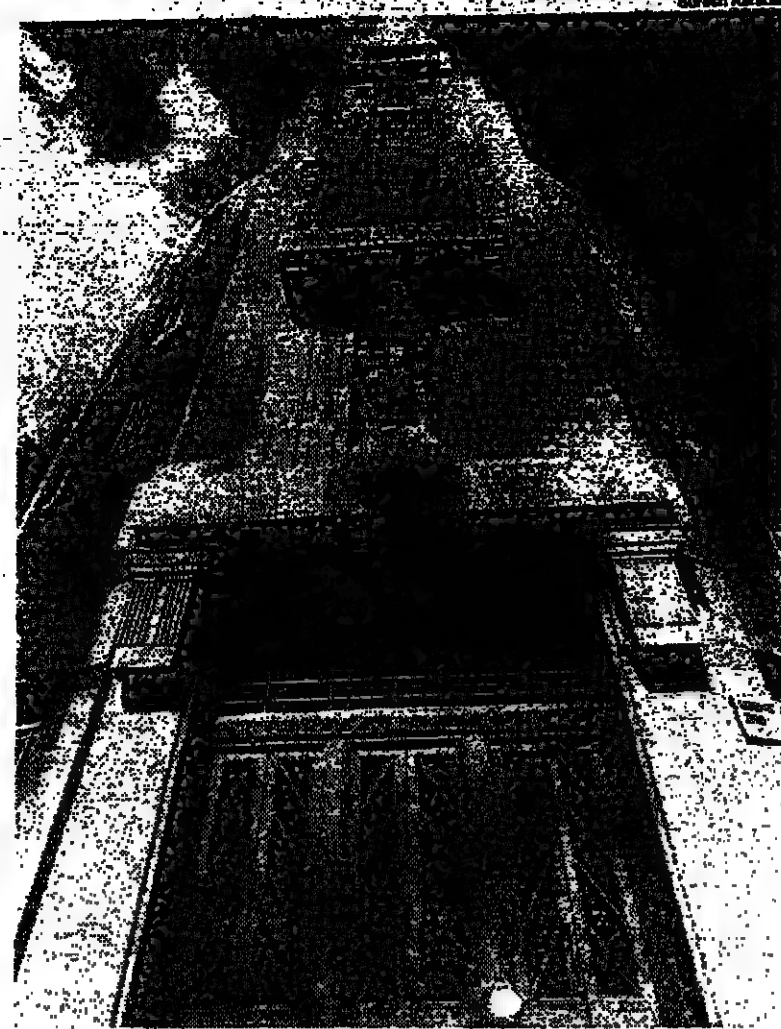
A class of nine-to-ten-year-olds in a Surrey middle school were given a vocabulary exercise, naming the female and offspring associated with words such as Ram? - Eve, lamb. Fox? - Vixen, cub. Negro? - to which a pupil replied: "Negress, child." "Child" was struck out, and the teacher substituted "Piccaninny".

Scientists are testing a vaccine against leprosy which has been developed by the National Institute for Medical Research in London with the improbable help of the nine-banded armadillo, scaly relative of sloths and anteaters. Only the armadillo shares with man the susceptibility to leprosy, whose bacillus cannot be cultured in laboratories. Such incidents of cosmic serendipity (for man, if not armadillos) are the best reason I know for saving any species of anything, however humble, obscure or bizarre.

PHS

Howard Davies on the wider issues raised by the White Paper on cable TV

Do we really need the BBC?



Broadcasting House, headquarters of the BBC. Throughout the world it is a symbol of the high standards of public-sector broadcasting - but can it continue to uphold this role as cable television nears?

The much-delayed, yet comprehensively leaked White Paper on cable television is due to appear on Thursday. It will show that the free-market sentiments which, for the most part, informed the Home Office caution and the Home Secretary's own instinctive feeling for paternalistic regulation. Though there will be a cable television authority, the principles guiding its actions will be far from those of the BBC charter.

But important though the green light for cable is, the White Paper, far from closing the issue, has sparked off a more wide-ranging debate on the future of broadcasting. Already the case for the dismemberment or even abolition of the BBC is gaining ground among the Prime Minister's advisers. And the Central Policy Review Staff (think tank) has been asked to consider the future of broadcasting policy. For once the analysis will go further than a sterile debate about the size of the licence fee.

The argument within the Government on cable has become the most public manifestation of the struggle between those in the Conservative Party who want to extend the principles of the market into other, hitherto controlled, areas of national life and those more traditional Tories who see state control of broadcasting as part of the maintenance of standards. Mrs Thatcher herself sits uncomfortably across this divide.

In the case of cable the winner was never in doubt. Cable is, after all, new-fangled, or hi-tech, depending on your vocabulary. It was hard to make a case for standards in something that has never existed. And even the most interventionist Tories doubt that the Government can successfully manage innovation.

The BBC is another can of worms. Though its self-serving arguments against unregulated cable were rightly rejected by the Government, an outright assault on the monopoly is a more tricky proposition. Yet it is not easy to see a rationale for the position we shall soon reach, with essentially unregulated "broadcasting" and monopolistic broadcasting.

The authors of a recently published Institute of Economic Affairs pamphlet "On the economics of cable television" point out that many of the arguments used against government control of cable are applicable to the BBC in its current form. They recommend an independent review of the present method of allocating frequencies, which should consider the economic case against the BBC.

What is the essence of this case? Its proponents argue first that it is incumbent on those who support a monopoly to make a case for it. They point out that the original reason for establishment of a national system was one of administrative convenience. The argument that the BBC was necessary to prevent interference was always

*Choice by Cable, by C. G. Veljanovski and W. D. Bishop is published by the IEA, price £2.50.

One of those seismic changes which occur in government policies every 50 years or so is under way in the criminal justice system. It follows a growing belief that the forces of law and order are losing the fight against crime and that a new strategy is needed.

In the changes being contemplated, such measures as the Criminal Justice Act and the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill now before Parliament are visible single outcrops in a shifting landscape.

Statements by key figures involved in the criminal justice system provide clues to the strength of the forces now at work. The Lord Chief Justice has said: "Neither police nor courts nor prisons can solve the problem of the rising crime rate. By the time that the criminal falls into the hands of the police, and in particular by the time he reaches court, it is too late. The damage has been done. The remedy, if it can be found, must be sought a great deal earlier."

Speaking to the Howard League for Penal Reform, Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said there should be less focus on the offender and more on the potential victim and his environment.

In a more recent lecture, Mr David Faulkner, the senior Home Office official responsible for crime policy planning, said there cannot be "an indefinite expansion of the system." Apart from being expensive, it is not clear how a proportional effect on the level of crime.

Those key statements together imply official recognition of the need for a shift of emphasis from concentration on the offender to a strategy designed to reduce crime and therefore the need for many to become involved in the criminal justice system.

For the present system has not worked effectively in spite of massive investment. In real terms, taking inflation into account, there has been a threefold increase in overall spending on law and order in the past 20 years. The number of police officers has risen from 78,000 in 1962 to just under 121,000, with heavy investment in equipment and technology. Numbers of prison officers have risen from around 6,300 to about 17,000 and probation officers from fewer than 2,000 to about 3,700.

Yet recorded crime has risen by 200 per cent in relation to population size in the past 20 years. The police clear-up rate has fallen from 44 per cent in 1962 to 37 per cent in 1982. Even so, the number of offenders found guilty of offences of all kinds has increased from one and a quarter million in the early 1960s to well over 2 million in 1981. The prison population has risen about 50 per cent in the same period, with a consequent increase in tension, overcrowding and the need to use police cells to hold men for periods much longer than intended.

bogus: it is quite possible to auction frequencies so as to avoid this problem.

The opponents of the present BBC structure argue that there are only two possible economic justifications for state control of broadcasting.

The first is that the market, left to itself, may not generate the type and quality of broadcasting desired by the population as a whole because broadcasting benefits those who do not pay for it. This is what economists call an externality argument. In other words, because the benefits from broadcasting do not flow only to those who pay for them, the cost-benefit analysis on the part of the payers may cause them to pay for too little of the service, since they do not capture the benefits that flow elsewhere.

Such an argument may apply, for example, to education. Even if your neighbours do not pay to educate their children it may be in your interests to do so if they are less likely to break your windows as a result. Yet you are unlikely to be willing to do so directly because it is hard to quantify the extent to which your windows benefit, as opposed to those of others in the street. So the end result, unless the local authority takes a hand and makes every one pay, is less education than people actually want.

It is possible to imagine such a

case for news broadcasting. A democratic society should benefit from an informed electorate. The quality of decisions made by your fellow electors may be higher if they know what is going on around them. Yet the argument is thin. A private newspaper industry provides adequate coverage at very low cost to the individual. Television and radio are clearly inferior media for the wide dissemination of detailed information and sequential argument. Television, in particular, in placing emphasis on performance skills in politicians, may well lower the quality of public figures and the electoral decisions made about them.

But in any event, the argument can apply only in the case of news and current affairs. What possible "externality" can be attached to the transmission of *Blankety Blank* at public expense?

The second argument for public broadcasting is that it is "non-excludable public good." In other words, because it is practically impossible to prevent others watching - free - programmes for which one has paid, there is a heavy disincentive to pay. The result is, again, that the free market generates less broadcasting than the sum of individual wishes would imply. The licence fee - with the law behind it - resolves this problem.

But it is hard to maintain that this leads inexorably to the creation of a monopoly. With cable, the argument clearly falls because a pay-per-view system is perfectly possible. And in a system funded by advertising, potential free-riders pay through their purchases of advertised goods.

Furthermore, what reason is there to suppose that the BBC provides anything approaching an optimum level of broadcasting and either in terms of cost or viewer preference? It may have some success in matching TV but its hardly answers the question of whether it is spreading its programme budget which was more than £470m in 1981-82. In a really fair review of issues we must ask, though, is that the costs of different types of broadcasting bear no relation to their audience appeal.

Many consider this entirely laudable. But they should be clear about the essence of the economic transaction they favour. The BBC's cultural output is funded by a licence fee levied evenly on all television set owners. This is a most regressive form of taxation. The poor are obliged to pay a higher proportion of their income than the better-off to fund the unconstrained artistic endeavours of BBC drama producers, which largely benefit the middle classes.

The principal beneficiaries of the arrangement are, as with any monopoly, its employees. Which is why the voices of these otherwise indefatigable guardians of the interests of the oppressed are seldom heard, raised against this inequitable arrangement.

The economic arguments are, therefore, unpersuasive. We are left with the view that there are wholly unquantifiable benefits, in terms of "standards".

No one seriously doubts that it is possible to make money out of broadcasting in this country, but would an entirely commercial service be one of which a government proud? Cable will soon provide us with an operating model of an alternative broadcasting system. It has already revolutionized television in the large cities of the US, and as the IEA authors point out, the choice available to viewers in Manhattan, in quality and variety, makes a nonsense of the traditional "quality" argument for the BBC unless one is prepared to restrict viewers' choices simply to make them more likely to watch the "quality" product.

It seems that if Mrs Thatcher has a second term there will be a radical reappraisal of public-service broadcasting. The present structure conceived in an era of optimistic collectivism - is crumbling, expensive and out of touch with its taxpayer-viewers.

Stuart Young, Mrs Thatcher's newly appointed Chairman of the BBC Governors, would do well to establish his own position now on the shape and size of the corporation. The next assault from Whitehall may be more fundamental than the usual sniping.

The author, until recently an official in the Treasury, is a London management consultant.

Making the punishment fit the victim

Up to now, the main thrust of policy by successive governments has been to strengthen and extend the power of the courts and other agencies dealing with offenders and to make extra resources available to them. This has been accompanied by legislation and effort to achieve the reform, or at least the rehabilitation, of the individual offender.

But, as Mr Faulkner says, the development of non-custodial penalties has not reduced the proportionate use of custody. It has, he says, become increasingly questionable whether "custodial sentences do in fact have any deterrent effect on the individual offender, or whether imprisonment can reform character or change behaviour."

"The police, probation service, the courts and prison service are all facing fundamental questions about their purpose and objectives."

That questioning has already led to proposals within the prison service to replace Rule one - the very buttress of the present system - which seeks to encourage offenders to lead a good and useful life.

The change from concentration on the offender to efforts to deal with the situation in which crime arises - the key to the seismic disturbance - is reflected in Sir Kenneth's report to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, on his action plan for the Metropolitan Police.

One of the aims is to shift the emphasis from a fire brigade role against crime after it has been committed to a more "pro-active" role. This has come to mean intervention by police with the involvement of other agencies and the community to reduce the

opportunities for crime and to seek to identify and deal with the situations in which it occurs. One example is the neighbourhood watch scheme, in which people look out for suspicious behaviour and liaise with police. Recognition by police that housing allocation policies, tenancy or bad housing design can contribute to crime opens the way to inter-agency cooperation.

That is being matched at national level by a standing committee of officials from all the separate government departments whose policies can either encourage or prevent crime.

That cooperation springs from a new awareness that is finally overcoming traditional interdepartmental rivalry. It is now becoming accepted that the Home Office, the police, prisons and courts cannot by themselves, acting singly or in concert, carry out effective law and order policies. There is also the realization that all the pressures and perhaps policies in recent years have forced the law and order agencies into making a "demand-led" response - a phrase first articulated by Sir Brian Cubbon, Permanent Under Secretary, at a meeting of 60 civil servants and others, including Sir Kenneth Newman, in 1980.

Subsequent Home Office and police thinking has been directed to reducing demand. Thought is now being given within the Home Office to achieving that aim by new approaches in legislation.

An example is the Telecommunications Bill now before Parliament under which CB radio enthusiasts using illegal equipment would have to forfeit it rather than be taken to court for any criminal offence. The use of fixed penalties for a wider range of traffic offences is also possible by the Transport Act 1982.

Another use of fixed penalties might be for non-payment of television licence fees. In 1981 there were 70,000 convictions for non-payment. A surcharge might be made for non-payment of VAT instead of prosecution. New ways of dealing with social security frauds are also being considered.

Mr Faulkner said at a Southampton University lecture in January: "I have sympathy with the view that the scope of the criminal law has grown, is still growing and should be reduced." The most promising approach, in his view, is to question vigorously all proposals for new criminal offences. Anything up to 200 or more may be created in a single parliamentary session.

There are also cases in which civil rather than criminal action could be taken. But, as was shown recently in the most publicized example so far, the Exit case, where civil action was taken instead of criminal, there can be controversy.

There is also scope, if limited, for de-criminalizing certain offences or, as in the Criminal Justice Act, reducing the use of custody. It stops immediate imprisonment for vagrancy and soliciting.

In many parts of the criminal justice system enthusiasm is growing for greater use of compensation or reparation by criminals to their victims, perhaps with the aid of a mediator. Alongside greater concern and aid for victims, experiments in reparation are going on in several places.

The Criminal Justice Act also embodies a change on similar lines to a concept of British justice going back to the twelfth century. This Act accepts the principle that the court's duty in a wide range of cases is to the victim rather than to the state. The Act breaks with precedent in allowing courts to make compensation orders instead of dealing with offenders in any other way. Presumably the order could be made only in addition to another form of punishment.

That important change and the prospective use of civil action instead of criminal modifies the notion - developed by Henry II - that injury between people is not simply an offence against the victim but a breach of the King's peace and a threat to the security and well-being of the whole of society. Over the centuries, the Crown has taken more and more responsibility for dealing with offenders on behalf of the victim and punishing them.

"Privatizing" such legal action would seem to be well in keeping with the philosophy of the Thatcher government, as does neighbourhood watch, a return to the virtues of self-reliance.



Sir Kenneth Newman: less focus on the offender.



Mr David Faulkner: is prison really a deterrent?

Roger Scruton

You've just got to have a nice day

New York has, asked to be celebrated, and what man or woman who knows the city can refuse? Some love it for its vitality, some for its charm, some for its modern offices, some for its Victorian factories, some for its culture, some for its vulgarity. A place that is loved for every reason is loved for none in particular. It is a mirage, whose pleasant prospect derives from our own subjective craving. By its universal permission, New York lends zest to appetite, and gratification to every small desire. It counts nothing human alien to itself, and makes only negotiable demands. You can take or leave the city, but it is adamant that you should take it of your own free will. Hence, behind the bustle and boldness of New York, the visitor experiences a rare kind of tranquillity. This New York peace is of special interest, now that the term "peace" has been captured by people with a motive to conceal its meaning.

New York peace is founded on conciliation. It arises because people actively pursue their own advantage, while propitiating those who are similarly minded. There is a common principle which urges the citizen to agree terms, even with his opponent - indeed, especially with his opponent. Everything that happens, happens by agreement. And therefore a lot happens. The social structure is bent towards agreement about matters not previously considered or decided. People move through the streets, primed for agreeable encounter. They make rapid contact, and as rapidly detach themselves, their hands and faces mobile with excitement.

American courtesies are largely to be explained by this public pursuit of agreement. We may complain of the manners which permit the instant use of Christian names; the immediate revelation of personal details, the frank discussion of everything that could conceivably become a term in some hypothetical contract. Even preliminary gestures can seem to us impertinent or insincere. Surely, we think, the airline hostess cannot mean it when she tells us to "have a nice day".

And of course there is a sense in which she does not mean it. Only what she does mean is a nice day. To all and sundry, but in God's voice, these words would express not conciliation, but a most terrible command. American courtesies are never commands: they are preliminaries to an agreement. Hence the hostess does not tell us to listen to the safety instruction. She does not even ask us. She says: "We of United Airlines should like to share some important information with you." In other words: "I bring you a gift of knowledge; how will you respond?" The American instinct for contract immediately answers: "With my second best attention. Terms agreed."

What I have just described might

be expressed more pompously as "the phenomenology of the market". It is life experienced through the pursuit of rapid contract. Honesty is at a premium; so are openness, activity, and the rights of man. This peace is one of the consequences should not surprise us. For its transaction occurs without the consent of the parties. One may feel cheated; but never coerced, oppressed or terrorized.

People can squeeze you, break you, or even gross you out; but they cannot try to get on your back without being thrown out for jerks, finks and weenies that they are. When Milton Friedman exhorts his countrymen to get the state off their backs, he merely reminds them of the fundamental principle of American existence: nothing is to happen except by agreement.

Friedman is not the only economist to have praised the market for its efficiency, for its equilibrium, for the "tacit knowledge" that it contains. But even if he is wrong - even if the socialists are right in their defence of a "planned" economy - that would not alter my conviction that the market is the most acceptable mode of distribution. It is the means whereby peace is made real among strangers; and that is its value.

We should not worry if the market in equities or real estate does not appear quite like that. There are merely the dubious out-growths of a minutely thriving organism. Ask yourself why auctions, cattle markets and markets are so attractive. Ask yourself why people flock to them, even when they have nothing to buy and nothing to sell. Ask yourself why these places have the character of festivals, in which expressions and gestures convey the highest animation and social readiness. The answer is simple. They are places where we enjoy the spectacle of multiple agreement, places where strangers cooperate, regardless of their individual interests and aims.

Of course the market is imperfect, as is every human thing. The socialists may be right, that it elevates freedom over justice, and means over ends. There is hardly a moralist who has not been offended by the profound amorality of the market: by its ability to transform every object of human affection into an object of exchange. To make the market economy into the cornerstone of politics, is indeed to simplify human existence beyond recognition. But to ignore its true merit - as the most widespread and immediate experience of human peace - is to take a step in a dangerous direction.

It is, I believe, no accident that those political systems which have abolished the market have also come to understand the term "peace" in a novel way: not as the ability to accept and conciliate one's opponent, but as the ability to silence him forever.

The author is editor of The Salisbury Review.

Geoffrey Smith

Look left, look right - then dither

An election manifesto usually serves a double purpose: it is both a prospectus and a treaty. It aims to attract the votes of the public, and it seeks to provide a basis on which the different factions of the party can unite by setting out an agreed programme for government.

The Conservative manifesto will this time be much more a prospectus than a treaty, largely because of Mrs Thatcher's dominant position. The Labour manifesto, on the other hand, will be much more of a treaty because the party cannot take its unity for granted even in the heat of an election campaign. If the recent policy statement *The New Hope for Britain* is anything to go by, Labour's platform will be determined by the balance of power within the party rather than by the need to woo the electorate.

The Liberal-SDP manifesto will be different. It will have to be a treaty and it will also have to pretend to be a prospectus for government, because more of a case is involved. But hardly anyone believes that the Alliance has a serious chance of forming the next government, so in this case the manifesto will also have to be a basis for negotiation if the Alliance holds the balance of power in the new Parliament.

Some of those who have been involved in the joint discussions between the two parties are well aware of this. But not all of them: for some it is quite enough to think about getting agreement with their Alliance partners, never mind about potential coalition partners in the future. Yet the greatest significance of any particular item in the joint programme for government is whether it would make it easier or harder for the Alliance to come to an arrangement with one of the other parties after the election, whether to form a coalition or some looser link.

Dr David Owen may have fluttered the doves a bit last week by saying that Polaris should be extended until the end of the century as a British deterrent unless deep cuts in strategic forces are agreed at the Geneva disarmament talks. That is contrary to Liberal policy. But in saying what he did Dr Owen was not breaking an agreement, merely drawing attention to a disagreement. The two parties are united in their opposition to Trident; they both take the view that Polaris should be included in the Geneva negotiations; but they have only been able to agree to differ as to

what should be done about Polaris if there is no settlement there.

That might in the longer term become a matter of great importance for Britain, but it is of much less immediate importance than whether cruise missiles should be deployed here. On this issue the Alliance negotiators have agreed to be indecisive. They propose that if there is no settlement at Geneva the attitude of the Alliance should depend upon how the talks broke down. This is a weaker position than the SDP adopted at its January council meeting in Newcastle: there is now no commitment to deploying cruise if the Geneva talks are unsuccessful. But it would leave the Alliance a free hand to agree with either Labour or the Conservatives.

On other issues the Alliance would find it impossible to do a deal with Labour on the basis of the policies set out in *The New Hope for Britain*. The Alliance could not go into partnership with a party committed to withdrawal from the EEC and to an industrial policy which provided for unlimited extensions of public ownership. Nor could it accept such a reflationary programme as is proposed in the document though that issue could presumably be fudged more easily.

The policy differences between the Conservatives would be less acute. The Alliance would certainly require some changes in Conservative economic policy and insist on a greater attachment to civil liberties. But the principal obstacle to a deal between the Alliance and the Conservatives would not be differences in policy at all: there would be strong resistance within the Alliance to becoming partners of the Conservatives, simply because they are Conservative. The Alliance would be reluctant to risk being tagged as right of centre.

There remains the possibility that the Alliance might do a deal with Labour on policies very different from those which seem likely to appear in the Labour manifesto. That would probably involve a further split in the Labour Party. It is what the Alliance would like best, but it is a long shot.

The way in which the manifestos are being prepared makes it much more likely that there is a hung Parliament than there is a minority government, one in which the Alliance would be able to exercise a moderating but only a negative influence - able to block the policies of which it disapproved, but not to insist on those which it wanted.

مكتبة منار لادام



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THE STUFF OF DREAMS

In putting himself forward as "Prime Minister Designate" Mr Jenkins, aided by Mr Steel, has anointed himself with a constitutional nonsense. There is no such post, any more than there is, constitutionally, the post of Deputy Prime Minister. The post of Prime Minister depends on an ability to command a majority in the House of Commons, and not on any hypothetical projection of popularity in opinion polls or anywhere else.

However the origins of this nonsense are only too clear. They date from the halcyon days of the Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance when its members could dream of forming a government. At that time it was felt necessary to overcome the duality of the Alliance - not to mention the tetrachloride nature of the SDP - by identifying a single figure of prime ministerial calibre, without having to devise a procedure for electing him. Mr Jenkins seemed the obvious choice, even though the procedure itself contained its own inconsistencies, certainly when embraced by two parties which believe in proportional representation. Under proportional representation a Prime Minister would normally come from the leader of the largest party in a coalition, and not through such an old-fashioned process as "emerging", which used to be the Tory

speciality until a leadership election was devised.

In the event many members of the Alliance, from both its constituent parties, feel that Mr Jenkins has not really earned the title which was put in his way. Mr Steel, on the evidence, can command more popularity, and would certainly fight a more inspired election campaign. That is now the more modest target of the Alliance, having implicitly discarded its hopes of forming a government.

This disappointment with Mr Jenkins may not be altogether fair, since in the art of government, as opposed to the art of popularity, he has infinitely more experience than Mr Steel. But the game of political popularity does not need to be fair or unfair, and even if Mr Jenkins had found the House of Commons to which he returned an agreeable place, which he has not, he would still have had difficulty adjusting his ministerial style to that of the leader of an aggressive minority party in opposition.

Mr Steel presumably calculates that the Alliance would suffer if it had to field Mr Jenkins as its leader, when all market research suggests that Mr Steel would make more of a splash. He has had to devise a method of projecting himself more

prominently in the elections without reneging on the public commitment to Mr Jenkins's preeminence as a prime ministerial candidate. That preeminence, incidentally, which was used as a cogent argument by Mr Jenkins's canvassers in the leadership election may now be recalled ruefully by the supporters of Dr David Owen.

So Mr Jenkins will retain his dignity, but it will be Mr Steel who is more often in front of the cameras. Behind him the two parties of the Alliance will fight on a joint programme of government, covering the essential issues which they would have to face as a government, and about which any potential supporter would be entitled to know. The parties also have separate shopping lists of policies for their respective *aficionados*.

That is the window dressing. Behind the counter, however, most members of the Alliance - Mr Jenkins included - will be struggling hard to retain their seats. In those circumstances Mr Steel is right to dominate the centre, secure not only in his hold over his constituency, but also in the knowledge that he is likely to be leading a larger group of MPs in the next Parliament than Mr Jenkins will. It may not be the stuff of dreams, but in his party political management, Mr Steel has never shown himself to be much of a dreamer.

A GAP IN EUROPE'S CENTRE

Dr Bruno Kreisky is seventy-two, not in the best of health, and has just lost his overall majority in parliament after being Chancellor of Austria for thirteen years. His decision to retire in these circumstances is understandable, dignified, and right. But we shall miss him.

Austria is a small, neutral country with a fairly homogeneous, well integrated society, an advantageous geographical position and a talented, hard-working population. Some would say it has got off rather lightly in this century, considering that it fathered Adolf Hitler, and accepted his embrace in 1938 with more enthusiasm than resistance. Unlike West Germany, it has never accepted any responsibility for Hitler's crimes, and unlike East Germany indeed, unlike any other country in mainland Europe - it has seen the voluntary departure of Soviet troops. It is not, perhaps, a country from which the rest of the world should readily take lessons.

Yet Dr Kreisky has established himself as a world statesman enjoying almost universal respect. The fact that he, a Jew, could become Chancellor at all

did much to allay foreign suspicions that Austria continued to harbour antisemitism or nostalgia for the Nazi past. Not content with that, he has taken an active interest in the Middle East, being one of a small but distinguished group of Jewish statesmen who have striven to bridge the gap between Israel and the Arabs by working for mutual recognition of the Israeli and Palestinian peoples.

Dr Nahum Goldman and M. Pierre Mendès France, both of whom died last year, also laboured in this thorny vineyard. But Dr Kreisky, as head of government for such a long period, attracted more of the limelight and, consequently, of the opprobrium involved. Many Israelis regarded his initiatives as inappropriate, to say the least. But Dr Kreisky deserves the gratitude of Jews everywhere because he has done more than anyone to get across to the Arabs the fact that Jews, qua Jews, are not their enemy.

Similarly, as leader of a country in the middle of Europe, committed to neutrality by state treaty and to detente by obvious self-interest, Dr Kreisky has never made the mistake of

supposing that detente meant crediting the Soviet block with benign intentions, dismantling its defences, or making concessions on human rights. Austria's admirable policy of never returning East European refugees to their country of origin has lately made our own Home Office blush, and rightly so.

Dr Kreisky is also a Socialist who has never confused social justice with state control, but equally has not supposed that all could be safely left to the market. Under his leadership Austria has followed unashamedly Keynesian policies and largely got away with it, so that there is something paradoxical about the Austrian postmark on Professor Hayek's dire warnings. Undoubtedly, Austria is a special case: a specialised economy enjoying the backwash of West German prosperity, with an enviable record of moderation and good sense on both sides of industry. But it was not always so. Before the war, class conflict was as bitter in Austria as anywhere. Austria's specialness today is a matter of will more than of nature, and Dr Kreisky's leadership has been one of its more striking symptoms.

It will be that, and more than that. Much of probation officers' work - in the preparing of reports, to assist courts in sentencing, for instance - is perhaps of a kind where a day here or there is of no great account. The work of supervising young delinquents and prisoners on parole is also a long-term affair. But it is one where the availability of the officer may on occasion be of urgent importance, both to the welfare of the client at a moment of stress and to the long-term relationship of trust and respect.

The symbolism of the stoppage is deeper than its promoters seem aware, for it represents the readiness of public servants with crucial responsibilities in the process of justice to interrupt that process because of a grievance which is in essence selfish. It is true that probation officers are hard-worked and not highly paid, and that without considerable dedication on their part their service could scarcely survive. They feel the tensions between their obligations to the courts and society, and to the disadvantaged or alienated people whom they counsel. They know the value of their work and naturally want to see society acknowledge and esteem it. But this desire topples over into self-righteousness when it leads them into action which lets down the courts, society, and their clients.

In themselves, these cuts scarcely warrant the unprecedented response of a strike. They do not affect the earnings of existing students nor of trained officers, and they can and should be reversed if the number of acceptable applicants is found to drop too far again. Like any other employer, the Government is justified in offering such inducements as the market requires, and public funds are too limited to be applied to students' pay if they can be more usefully applied elsewhere in the probation field. The disproportionate resentment aroused by the change seems to reflect a feeling that the service itself is being slighted. The issue is a symbolic one, and the one-day strike is no doubt meant as no more than a symbolic protest.

that the application will be accepted by the High Court, which effectively destroys the procedure as a meaningful remedy for a refused asylum seeker. Further, there is no guarantee that legal aid will be available for asylum seekers who do not have the funds necessary to pay for these costly proceedings.

The United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service have in fact, a test case before the High Court at the present time on the interpretation of the 1971 Immigration Act as it affects the appeal rights of those refused asylum. It will not be until all asylum seekers have a right to substantive appeal against refusal of asylum prior to removal, at no financial cost to themselves, that the current situation will improve.

Applications by individuals for judicial review may in some instances be successful, and in others buy time, but they are not a solution to the problem.

Incidentally, it used to be the practice of the Home Office not to deport where the applicant was in danger of persecution merely because the news of his application had reached his home government. On that basis very few people were sent back to Eastern Europe. It is clear that practice has been changed under the present government.

Yours faithfully,
ALEX LYON, Chairman,
United Kingdom Immigrants
Advisory Service,
House of Commons.

Deported Romanian

From Mr Alex Lyon, MP for York (Labour).

Sir, I refer to the letter from Karen Sturtivant (April 21) pointing out the possibility of an application to the High Court for judicial review in the case of Mr Papoussis.

A judicial review is not an appeal on the facts so there is a substantial difference between the right of appeal to the appellate authorities, which can address itself to the specific issue of the asylum claim, and an application for judicial review, which may be accepted on a legal technicality whilst leaving the merits of the asylum claim unsolved.

In any event there is no guarantee

Information and public records

From Lord Teviot

Sir, As the promoter of the Public Records (Amendment) Bill in the House of Lords, I feel I should respond to recent correspondence in your columns.

The Public Records Act 1958 did not relate to births, deaths and marriages; these remained the responsibility of the Registrar General. This is unsatisfactory because such records have become available for public inspection. Only the indexes are available to the public and in order to gain more detailed information it is necessary to purchase a certificate (cost £4.60 or, by post, £9.60), which will take 48 hours to prepare. There can, however, be no guarantee that every certificate will be the one required and the search must continue - at further cost.

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to enable the Registrar General's records to be transferred, after 100 years, to the Public Record Office. That would mean that, on payment of a single fee, a family historian could, for a whole day, study and make notes of the records. In this way he might cover several weeks' work had he to use the present arrangements. The saving to the historian would, in every respect, be significant and the costs of the records office would still be covered.

One appreciates there is alarm about the fee which might be charged. It must cover all reasonable costs - including premises, equipment and staff - but some of the figures being bandied about appear excessive. Even if they were not, I suggest that the explanation I have already given shows that the inspection facility would give value for money.

My Bill has to retain the status quo during a period of 100 years. It is my hope that public opinion will become sufficiently relaxed, in due course, to allow this period to be shortened and the benefits extended. However, in response to Mr A. J. Camp's letter (April 15), it would not be practicable to burden local registrars with making their registers available to the public. We are dealing with what is essentially a central government function.

I am very grateful to the Lord Chancellor, his predecessor in the last government, the Registrar General and other senior civil servants for the support they have given to this Bill. It is not politically contentious and I hope that Mr Stan Newens, MP - himself a distinguished local and family historian - will receive equal support from all quarters in steering this small but valuable measure through the House of Commons.

Yours faithfully,

TEVIOT,
House of Lords,
April 21.

Lead in petrol

From Mr Nigel Haigh

Sir, Your Environment Correspondent (April 19) perpetuates a misunderstanding when he says "at present petrol in the UK must contain at least 0.15 grammes of lead per litre". An EEC directive certainly sets an upper limit of 0.4 g/l but although it does not permit member states to insist on less than 0.15 g/l it does not prevent any oil company from marketing lead-free petrol if it wishes to do so.

This point could become important if the British Government want lead-free petrol on sale before it can persuade other member states of the Community to amend the directive. There is a school of thought in Britain that holds that environmental matters are often best handled with good sense and by voluntary agreement. Getting lead out of petrol could be the acid test of the ability of industrialists, in this case motor manufacturers and oil refiners, to agree to act without compulsion on a matter of public interest.

Yours faithfully,

NIGEL HAIGH,
Institute for European
Environmental Policy,
10 Percy Street, W1,
April 19.

Aid to Third World

From Mr L. C. V. Walker

Sir, Professors Bauer and Yamey (feature, April 11) should visit Thailand to see refuted the attacks they make on foreign aid. The results of foreign grants and special loans are clearly to be seen in infrastructural improvements to the economy, higher productivity in agriculture and improvements in the health and welfare of all sections of the population, especially the rural poor.

These things would, without doubt, have happened without foreign aid, but they would have taken decades longer to accomplish. Foreign aid, properly and prudently applied by successive governments, has promoted industrial development, has relieved rural poverty.

Also, though the Thais look to the West, basically, because of their passionate belief in the freedom of the individual, the fact that they have received aid has undoubtedly strengthened the practical bonds between Thailand and the West.

Economic stability and growth has helped provide the military strength that gives the clout to make them a friend of the West to be reckoned with in the turbulent regional political scene. General Marshall, who was in a position to judge, certainly did not share the pessimistic views on the West of aid.

Three of the professors' dogmatic statements are clearly disproved here. The fourth, that "aid is neither

Hitler diaries: resurrection of evil?

From the Chief Rabbi

Sir, Not as a religious leader, but as a human being - victim and survivor of history's most monstrous tyranny - I protest vehemently against the publication of the so-called Hitler diaries. Whether they are authentic or not is quite immaterial to the outrage of resurrecting the incarnation of evil and his propaganda, rehabilitating him for a generation which knew not this master-gangster. His crime was against the whole of mankind, and against so many in this country who made the supreme sacrifice fighting in the cause of freedom and justice. Publicising his case is an unpardonable threat to our most elementary moral values.

From the hints already published it is clear that the diaries, even if they are genuine, are calculated to whitewash the blackest chapter in the annals of man. The involvement in the Hoss mission, the feigned contempt for his henchmen, the admiration for Chamberlain, the implied attempt to save the British at Dunkirk and above all the pains to distance himself from the mass extermination of the Jews which he ordered - all this must distort the gruesome record of history.

Having this find "as the biggest literary discovery since the Dead Sea Scrolls" is a sacrilege which only

compounds the insult to the millions who perished and suffered under this tyranny. That such a brutal dictator, who was convinced that his Reich would last for a thousand years, should care to rewrite his history as "a testimony to posterity" seems implausible and preposterous.

It would be the cruellest irony if mercenary exploitation were to afford more tangibility to Hitler's principal murder weapon - his brainwashing propaganda - then to the obliterated human remains of his death factories.

In the name of decency, morality and truth, I call upon men of good will everywhere to prevent this proposed affront to the past and depriving threat to the future.

Yours sincerely,
I. JAKOBOVITS,
Office of the Chief Rabbi,
Adler House,
Tavistock Square, WC1,
April 25.

From Mr D. Lister Newcombe

Sir, Would not one fingerpoint thereon have a sufficient "expectation of life" to be verifiable?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
D. LISTER NEWCOMBE,
19 Woodside Road,
Northwood, Middlesex.

CND aims and Soviet propaganda

From Mrs Caroline Gourlay

Sir, I read your leading article today (April 21) with interest and feel myself that it is a pity that the CND is to be represented at the Prague World Peace Council, which will be little more than a Soviet propaganda affair.

I am glad, too, that you pointed out that the vast majority of the rising numbers of CND members are not from the hard left. I know many who are not even socialist, though next time round they might well vote for the Labour Party.

What you might also have explored is the reason for this expansion which, I would suggest, is directly related to the increasing anxiety felt over this Government's apparent lack of concern for the fact that the arms race is out of control.

If Margaret Thatcher is concerned to halt the proliferation of nuclear weapons she has not managed to communicate as much to the general public. On the contrary, her record of voting against disarmament motions at the United Nations can only lead people to the conclusion that she does not take the negotiations seriously.

Yours sincerely,
CAROLINE GOURLAY,
Hill House Farm,
Knighton,
Radnor, Powys.

From Lord Chalfont

Sir, Mr Bruce Kent's letter (April 22) commenting on your perceptive leading article (April 21) is characterised by the disingenuous sophistry used by the leaders of the CND to conceal their real political aims from the rank and file of the movement.

The red herring about the END (European Nuclear Disarmament) Convention in Berlin is, of course, a typical device to divert attention from the important fact, which is that CND is now to be represented at a meeting of the World Peace Council in Prague in June. It is therefore important that members of the campaign should know something about the WPC.

It is the most important of the Soviet Union's front organizations. It is controlled by the International

Department of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which also supervises the activities of the KGB. It was founded after World War II with the principal functions of promoting Soviet foreign policy aims by infiltration and control of activist organizations in Western countries. It has been expelled from France and Austria for subversive activities but now has its headquarters in Helsinki and operates in the United Kingdom through the British Peace Assembly.

It aims to attract non-communists to its meetings, so that they may be associated with resolutions laying the blame for the arms race entirely on the United States and the West. That a majority of the CND Council should, as Mr Kent says, have taken the decision to attend this Russian propaganda occasion is not surprising since the majority of council members are either communists, extreme left socialists or Soviet sympathizers.

One can only hope that the many CND members who are not in favour of sponsoring Russian foreign policy will now make their views known to Mr Kent.

Yours faithfully,

CHALFONT,
House of Lords,
April 22.

From Mr Hamish Soutar

Sir, On April 20 you carried a report that CND is to send two observers to attend and address the Prague meeting of the World Peace Council. From this, your leader writes on April 21 that the "meretricious conclusion that CND is a 'left-wing front', run by communists and in sympathy with Leninist doctrine."

Also on April 20, it was reported that Mrs Thatcher is sending one of her ministers to Moscow and Leningrad for "political discussions" with Soviet officials. Does this mean that she's a communist too? I think we should be told.

Yours sincerely,
HAMISH SOUTAR,
Finsbury,
Willesden,
Redlynch,
Nr Salisbury, Wiltshire.

time show really exceptional profits.

Mamoun Hassan refers also to the fact that Gandhi would not have been made without government support through the National Film Development Corporation of India. As I have been advising that body concerning Gandhi for over two years, I can confirm that it provided over one third of the production finance required and that a very substantial profit already seems assured.

What a pity that the size of our National Film Finance Corporation's resources did not enable it to contemplate a similar investment.

Yours very truly,
JOHN TERRY,
Denning House,
90 Chancery Lane, WC2,
April 20.

Finance for films

From Sir John Terry

Sir, My friend Mamoun Hassan refers, in his letter of April 19, to the well known maxim of the American studios that only one film in 10 makes a profit. Today perhaps that might be one in six. In any event it is worthy of note that the National Film Finance Corporation has received profits from one in three of the feature films it has helped to finance, a record unequalled by any group in the private sector. So much for the charge of elitism!

The regrettable fact is that the corporation has throughout suffered, and is still suffering, from the very limited nature of its funds and it has therefore not been able to finance any of the large film enterprises which are the ones that from time to

that channelled through international agencies. The professors complain that "aid does not make friends for the West". But aid can and does make friends for Britain - or Germany or Sweden or wherever - if the British or Germans or Swedes are involved. People can relate much more strongly to specific countries and people than to the impersonal "West" represented by an international agency staffed by polyglot bureaucrats.

New methods of implementation should be examined and tried. An emphasis on specific projects, where marginal viability can be made positive by a combination of outright grants and soft loans, could be a promising route to follow. The use of guarantees rather than grants or loans is another.

International aid is one of the great concepts of the post-war world and in spite of many failures has benefited enormously the West and the recipient countries. A certain degree of cynicism about it and about the ways in which it has come to be implemented is understandable and, indeed, desirable. But to call for its abolition or curtailment seems to justify the classic definition of a cynic as "someone who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing".

Yours faithfully,
L. C. V. WALKER,
21 St. Louis 1,
Saffron Road South,
Bangkok 12,
Thailand.
April 16.

Getting it right in industry

From the Bishop of Lincoln

Sir, Your leading article, "Recovery without inflation" (April 16) suggests that there are two economic alternatives for this country - low inflation with unemployment above the "natural rate" or fuller employment with higher inflation.

But in between these two abstractions are millions of people in managements, trade unions and on shop and office floors. The paradoxically almost-Marxist determination of your article seems to ignore the factor of industrial relations - ie, the understandings and agreements and bargains these millions can make between themselves and the atmosphere of trust or distrust that can be engendered between them to the good or ill of productivity.

Your article states "... the Government cannot in the long run do anything - except by improving the workings of the labour market - to promote full employment anyway..." But surely a Government can and should promote at least fuller employment by encouraging more enlightened industrial relations.

Leaving it all to the market will simply result in the old, irresponsible see-saw of whoever gains the tactical power on the shop floor getting what they want - management with unemployment, workforce when employment is full. This is because the market is a place full of people and not an abstraction in economists' minds. There is a politics and not just an economics of recovery, and this your article seems to ignore.

One would have hoped that the severity of the recession might have wonderfully concentrated the minds of all parties in industry to establish better mutual arrangements and that any Government would energetically encourage and support them. Present Government labour legislation seems a distraction from this central issue.

Some current troubles look just like the old ones we are so wearily used to. At the same time companies which are seriously trying to grasp the nettle show signs of being the ones that will prosper themselves and benefit the community.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON LINCOLN,
Bishop's House,
Eastgate,
Lincoln,
April 21.

Post-coital pill

From the Chairman of LIFE

Sir, Professor Glanville Williams (April 13) stoops to the tactic of attributing juvenile ideas to us "out-and-out anti-abortionists" in order to mock them.

We pro-lifers do not argue that the fertilised ovum must be protected "because the soul entered with fertilisation". We do not talk theology (interestingly, it is he who invokes a rather silly report by one of the innumerable working parties of the British Council of Churches). We simply accept the massive evidence of modern science that human life begins at conception (fertilisation). As embryology, the astonishing recent development of genetics and equally astonishing achievement of so-called "test-tube" babies prove, fertilisation is the only event of which one can say, "that is when I began being me - and I have been me, a human being, ever since".

Modern science finally makes it impossible to propose any alternative starting-point. Implantation (like "quickening" and birth) is an incident in a unique human life already begun. It can successfully occur only and precisely because what is implanted is already a living human being.

We do not call a newly fertilised human embryo a "child" simpliciter. But it is a human being - an embryonic person, a child (and an adult) in the making. We do not call an acorn an oak. But once it has started to sprout it is becoming a tree.

Professor Williams wants the law to be "sensible" (i.e. to agree with him). But the law does not discriminate against the small and the young. It and democracy reject the idea of second-class, "sort of" human beings and says that human life is human life, regardless of size and age. Hence the law should provide just protection before as well as after the incident of implantation.

The alternative is to abandon justice and democracy, as well as to fly in the face of modern science. On this occasion, as always before, is not abortionism muddled-headed and retrogressive?

Yours faithfully,
J. J. SCARISBRICK, Chairman,
LIFE,
7 Parade,
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire,
April 13.

Buying British

From Mr Doré Silverman

Sir, This letter is typed on a Japanese-made typewriter, purchased after vain attempts - visiting five shops - to buy a British one. The first patent was taken out by an Englishman - Henry Mils - in 1714.

Yours etc,
DORÉ SILVERMAN,
9 Compayne Gardens, NW6,
April 15.

Endangered species?

From Mr John Brennan

Sir, Lord Cuddip (April 22) regards the fact of six editions of the *Daily Express* within six years as evidence of an endangered species. Surely it suggests a population explosion.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BRENNAN,
1 Brompton Terrace,
Perth,
April 22.

BELFAST: D.I. Hogg, tel: 0232-246565. BIRMINGHAM: P.T. Williams, tel: 021-454 5471. BRISTOL: A.H. Hooton, tel: 0273-297631. CAMBRIDGE: K.J. Postings, tel: 0223-315424. CROFTON: G.P. Brewer, tel: 01-661 1681. EXETER: M.C. Mallock, tel: 0392-32872. GLASGOW: I.G. McBain, tel: 041-332 8591. LEEDS: W.A. Day, tel: 0532-445831. LIVERPOOL: D.R. Pritchard, tel: 051-227 1631. LONDON: J.W. Goodwin, tel: 01-404 0090/0433. MANCHESTER: B.J. Handley, tel: 061-833 9100. NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE: T.C. Duff, tel: 0632-815321. NOTTINGHAM: R. Simble, tel: 0602-411261. SOUTHAMPTON: G.C. Spear, tel: 0703-34611. WATFORD: J.C. Buttle, tel: 0923-21221.

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Minster rally curbed

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, April 25. Dealings end, May 8. Settlement day, May 16.

Early enthusiasm for shares of Minster Assets, the financial and insurance group, was curbed by a cautious statement from the company about North Sea drilling prospects, released last evening.

Earlier, the shares were up by 21p to 117p fuelled by speculation that Minster was about to become a dawn raid victim and later by news of a North Sea drilling find.

However, Minster warned that further drilling would be required to evaluate significance of a find on block 29/5A in the North Sea and that a detailed seismic survey is planned to help define the discovery.

The shares were held back by the news and closed at 111p up by 15p on the day.

Oil was also in good form riding on the back of higher oil prices, with LASMO closing up by 17p at 323p and Shell by 10p at 502p.

The first day of the new account was also buoyed by the arrival of four newcomers to the UK's Stock Exchange, closed up 26p on the day at 731p.

Spring Ram, the furniture group, up by 31p at 136p, Microlease, up by 44p at 150p.

while Mnemos, which was hived off from Combined Technologies, closed up by 18p at 65p on the striking price.

Elsewhere, the market was in a quiet, but firm mood with the FT Index closing the day up 5.3 points at 693.3, after a late surge brought about by the news of a prime rate cut from 10.5 to 10 per cent by St Louis Bank, in the US.

Gilt had another dull day, with light volume, although prices firmed up, reflecting both technical conditions in the market and the hopes for lower United States interest rates.

The American money supply figures on Friday had been better than forecasts, and the prime rate cut by St Louis helped sentiment.

By the close of the day, the market was up to 1/2 of a point, mediums were as much as 1/2 better - although the market did not test the tap and shorts were as much as 1/2 a point higher.

Among the leaders GEC again made most of the running after a bullish circular from brokers, Rowe & Pimman, and strong overseas buying, particularly from the US and Middle East. Analysts are now looking for pretax profits of £685m, against earlier forecasts in the region of £670m and the shares increased by 12p to close at 248p.

Shares of Flight Refuelling, the Dorset-based aircraft, nuclear and electronics company, jumped by 7p to 299p yesterday ahead of today's results. Analysts are looking for £3.9m pretax, against £3.0m last time and also expect to hear some bullish news on contract news.

ICI also continued its recent strong performance with the shares rising by 8p to 470p on the day ahead of Thursday's first quarter figures.

Mr Asil, Nadir's Polly Peak Holdings was in the news again after the profit potential of a new bottling plant and television manufacturing interests.

After a shaky start which saw the shares fall by 25p to £133, a soothing statement from the company helped the shares rally to close at £171.

Sister companies fell in sympathy: Cornell Dresses, down 27p at 141p, and Wearwell, down 6p at 57p.

In the property sector shares of Balfour Bevan, the estate agents, stayed firm at 155p after news that members of the board had sold a 4 per cent shareholding to reduce the stake held by directors from just below 20 per cent.

Continuing excitement about the prospects for Teleate, the electronic information service, helped bolster shares of Exco, which was up by 45p at 713p, and British & Commonwealth, which was up by 40p at 870p.

In contrast London & Liverpool Trust shares remained

under pressure falling by 20p to close at 344p after continuing doubts about the group's Teletextor pub video agreements.

Poor results from Simon Engineering which managed pretax profits of only £20,60m, against £20,33m last year after a long track record of substantial year-by-year profits growth.

Banks were given a firm market with Barclays down 2p at 483p, and Lloyds up by 3p at 521p.

Metal Box was a strong feature, rising by 16p to close at 210p after favourable comment, while Glaxo a previous high-flyer was down by 4p to 881p.

Rediffusion continued as a strong market rider on the back of an anticipated announcement of bid terms by BT, with the shares up by 15p to 553p.

Standard Telephones and Cables announced that it has completed the acquisition of certain businesses of International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation in the UK and Irish ordinary shares of 25p each have been issued in consideration for those businesses.

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1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1001	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1002	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1003	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1004	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1005	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1006	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1007	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1008	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1009	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1010	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1011	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1012	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1013	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1014	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1015	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1016	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1017	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1018	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1019	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1020	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1021	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1022	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1023	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1024	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1025	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1026	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1027	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1028	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1029	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1030	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1031	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1032	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1033	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1034	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1035	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1036	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1037	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1038	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1039	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1040	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1041	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1042	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1043	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1044	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1045	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1046	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1047	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1048	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1049	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1050	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1051	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1052	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1053	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1054	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1055	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1056	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1057	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1058	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1059	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1060	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1061	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

RECENT ISSUES

Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1062	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1063	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1064	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1065	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1066	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1067	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1068	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1069	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1070	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1071	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1072	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1073	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1074	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1075	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1076	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1077	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1078	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1079	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1080	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Pence	%	P/E
1081	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1082	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1083	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1084	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1085	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1086	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1087	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1088	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1089	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
1090	120	110	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1

1982/83 High Low Company Price Chgs Pence % P/E

101	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
102	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
103	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
104	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
105	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
106	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
107	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
108	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
109	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
110	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
111	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
112	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
113	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
114	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
115	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
116	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
117	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
118	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
119	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
120	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
121	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
122	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
123	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
124	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
125	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
126	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
127	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
128	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
129	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
130	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
131	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
132	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
133	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
134	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
135	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
136	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
137	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
138	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
139	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
140	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
141	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
142	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
143	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
144	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
145	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
146	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
147	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
148	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
149	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
150	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
151	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
152	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
153	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
154	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
155	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
156	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
157	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
158	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
159	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
160	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
161	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
162	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
163	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
164	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
165	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
166	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
167	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
168	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
169	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
170	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
171	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
172	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
173	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
174	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
175	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
176	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
177	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
178	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
179	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
180	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
181	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
182	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
183	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
184	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
185	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
186	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
187	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
188	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
189	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
190	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
191	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
192	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
193	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
194	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
195	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
196	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
197	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
198	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
199	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
200	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
201	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
202	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
203	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
204	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
205	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
206	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
207	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
208	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
209	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
210	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
211	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
212	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
213	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
214	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
215	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
216	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
217	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
218	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
219	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
220	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
221	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
222	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
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224	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
225	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
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230	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
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232	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
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256	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
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281	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
282	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
283	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
284	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1	10.1
285	104	Admiral	110	+10	10	9.1</	

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 693.3 up 5.3
FT 100: 61.80 up 0.36
Hang Seng: 23,300
Nikkei: 171.1 up 0.3
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Average 8,596.09 down 1.29
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index
1,041.07 up 34.54
New York: Dow Jones Average
(latest) 1,199.88 up 3.58

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5680 up 2.05
Index 84.0 up 0.8
DM 3.83
FF 11.47
Yen 370
Dollar
Index 122.0 down 0.4
DM 2.4440 down 35 pts
Gold
\$440 up \$2.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$441.50
Sterling \$1.5665

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month interbank 10%
Euro currency rates:
3 month dollar 9%
3 month DM 5%
3 month 13%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period March 2 to April
5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974, per
cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Minster Assets 111p up
20p
Pan Canadian £14.5 up
£2.25
Mandarin Fin. 41p up 6p
Ford Mtr. BDR 154p up 22p
Aquascutum "A" 41p up
5.5p
BSG Int. 14p up 1.5p
Cornell Dressing 141p down
27p
Comb. Tech. 51.5 down
6.75p
Rotaprint 8p down 1p
Polly Peck 57.5 down £2
Wearwell 517p down 6p
Kelsey 180p down 15p

TODAY

Interims: Dunton Grp, New
Australia Invest, Safeguard
Industrial Invest.
Fininvest: Clement Clarke
(Hidges) Clive Discount, Eis
Grp, English National Invest,
Flight Refuelling, John Men-
zies, S Pearson and Son, Rush
and Tompkins, H C Slingsby,
Solicitors Law Stationery So-
ciety, Tarmac, Turf Corp.
Economic statistics: CBI
Industry trends survey (April),
Bricks and Cement production
(1st Qtr).

Pleasurama in casino talks

Pleasurama, which is bidding
for Trident Television, has
confirmed that it is negotiating
to sell its one-quarter share in
four London and provincial
casinos to Grand Metropolitan.
But it says that any reorganiza-
tion would "have due regard to
the importance of maintaining
Pleasurama's profitability." The
stake in the casinos provided
£4.1m of Pleasurama's total
profits of £9.5m last year.
The key to a deal taking place
is a reference to the Monopolies
and Mergers Commission: Lord
Cockfield, Secretary for Trade
is expected to make a decision in
about 10 days. Any deal is
conditional on approval by
Pleasurama's shareholders, which
include Grand Metropolitan
with 29 per cent, on the offer
for Trident Television going
unconditional and on consulta-
tions with the gaming board.

29m PLACEMENT: In-
surance broker Reed Stenhouse
has raised \$30m (£29m)
through a private placement
with institutional investors of
1.1 million shares. The place-
ment, which will reduce Sten-
house Holdings proportion of
Reed Stenhouse issued equity
from 52.4 per cent to 49 per
cent, will enable Reed Sten-
house to make an acquisition
"probably in North America",
the company said.

BPCC DEAL: Mr Robert
Maxwell, chairman of British
Printing and Communications
Corporation, and Mr Richard
Hewitt, managing director of
the Reader's Digest, have signed
a 10-year contract worth £25m
for BPCC to produce the British
edition of the Reader's Digest.

VIDEO DEAL: The French
state-owned firm Thomson is to
start providing video tape
recorders jointly made with
JVC of Japan by the end of the
year.

Wall St mixed after gains

New York (Reuters) - Wall
Street stock prices turned
mixed, surrendering some ear-
lier gains.

Analysts said that investors
remained bullish and that many
simply stepped away from the
market rather than sell stocks
aggressively.

The Dow Jones industrial
average was ahead about 1 1/2
points at 1197.95 after having
been up more than five points
during the morning. Declining
issues held a narrow lead over
advances, and the NYSE
composite stock index pointed
slightly lower.

Smith Barney rose 1 1/2
to 69 after reporting a 10 per
cent rise in first quarter net.

Zenith gained a point to 18. It
was profitable in the first
quarter compared with a loss in
the same period last year.

IBM fell one to 116, although
it raised the quarterly dividend.

President Reagan has ap-
proved in principle a plan that
would result in sweeping re-
forms of United States trade
policy by creating a new
department of international
trade to focus heavily on
increased exports.

Court win for Lonrho directors

By Our Financial Staff

First blood went to Lonrho
yesterday in the battle over
whether Harrods of Knights-
bridge should be demerged
from the rest of the House of
Fraser department stores group.

It was able to claim victory in
the legal skirmishes being
fought with the main Fraser
board in the Scottish courts.

Lonrho's legal victory was
only one of a series of
developments which saw Pro-
fessor Roland Smith, Fraser's
chairman, indicate an interest
in buying the Alders depart-
ment store chain from United
Draperies Stores and predict that
the group's fortunes in five years
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would be "more than £75m".

The two Lonrho directors,
who also sit on the Fraser
board, had put their case for
demerger under the store
group's own letter heading.
Lonrho also obtained an
injunction preventing the main
House of Fraser board bringing
forward a meeting to consider
the group's yearly results from
next Thursday to today.

The two Lonrho directors on
the Fraser board claimed that
they had had insufficient time
to consider the profit figures.
Professor Smith's reason for
attempting to bring forward the
board meeting remained un-
clear last night.

However, Professor Smith
said that he hoped the legal
actions had at least "wasted Mr
Rowland's time", did say that
when the yearly figures are
announced they will give some
indication of the dividends
already being paid by the
group's new trading strategy.

He said that pre-tax profits in
five years' time would be more
than double the level of last
year which is yet to be
announced. Later he said that in
five years, profits would be
more than £75m. This did not,
however, mean that the figures
to be discussed at Thursday's
board meeting would show a
profit of around £75m. The
stock market is expecting a
figure considerably below this.

Professor Smith indicated
that House of Fraser was
interested in buying a chain of
stores like the Alders depart-
ment stores owned by UDS.

However, Mr Martin Taylor,
finance director of Hanson
Trust, which has control of
UDS, said the Fraser interest
was news to him.

Lord (Toby) Aldington is a
well respected City father and
among his many commitments,
is chairman of Sun Alliance
Insurance Group.

Sun Alliance is one of
Britain's big composite in-
surance companies, and like its
comparable brethren it loses
money on its primary job -
which is underwriting general
(as opposed to life) insurance
policies.

In 1982 it managed a loss of
£71m on this activity - not far
from double the £37m loss it

Investment earnings almost match car-making profits

Ford of Britain lending £1,000m to American parent company

By Edward Townsend,
Industrial Correspondent

Ford of America, which is
only now beginning to return to
profitability after years of big
losses, last year borrowed
almost £1,000m from its United
Kingdom operation, it was
revealed yesterday.

The 1982 accounts for Ford
of Britain show that, while
promissory notes from Ford US
declined to £387m at the end of
last year from £656m a year
earlier, the American parent
received a substantial boost
from a £574m original issue
discount note.

The note, the first of its type
to be issued by Ford UK, has a
maturity date not later than
January 28, 1987, and the
discount was calculated "on a
normal commercial basis".

Ford of Britain is not paying
a dividend to the parent
company for the fourth year in
succession, but it has been
called upon to support the US
group with substantial and
growing amounts of loans, often
at commercial rates of interest.

The result is that Ford UK is
earning almost as much money
from its investments as it is
from making and selling cars
and trucks. Operating profit for



Sam Toy with the Sierra, which trimmed annual production

1982, at £109m, was boosted by
£31m of net interest income, most
of which came from the American
loans.

Interest income was cut by
foreign exchange adjustments to
£85m, giving the British company
a pretax profit of £194m
against £220m in 1982.

Mr Sam Toy, the chairman

and managing director, who
described the £220m as "rela-
tively good" last year, said the
1982 result showed that, despite
the effects of the recession and
intense competition, the com-
pany was "managing to stay in
the pack".

A rise in capital investment
last year from £280m to £398m

led to a substantial reduction in
Ford's tax bill, giving a profit
figure of £192m after tax against
£165m in 1981.

But Mr Toy told workers that
the company's position re-
mained "precarious", and there
appeared to be no relief from
the misery of economic re-
cession with Ford's competitors

offering a "tougher and tough-
er" fight.

He said: "I guess that we're
now in the position of the man
who has fallen off a cliff but has
managed to catch hold of a tree
on the way down. We can be
pleased with the way we are
hanging on and are managing to
survive - but we can't afford to
relax a single muscle."

Ford of Britain's turnover
last year rose to £3,287m from
£3,073 in 1981, but direct
exports were down from £919m
to £894m, covering the export
of 112,000 vehicles and ship-
ments of components, parts and
accessories.

However, exports were
£265m less than imports and
the company said this was
primarily due to the "continuing
failure of car plants at
Halewood and Dagenham to
achieve production schedules
and the consequential need to
balance market requirements
from European manufacturing
locations.

Ford UK car production was
10 per cent lower last year than
in the previous two years, the
company said, partly because of
the introduction of the Sierra
"but largely through the failure
of the car plants to achieve
schedules for long periods."

City Comment

No time for a sell-off

Nobody will have been
observing the recent extra-
ordinary rally in oil shares
with more interest than Mr
Nigel Lawson, the Sec-
retary of State for Energy.
Having disposed of Britoil,
and moved seven-eighths
of the way towards dispos-
ing of British Gas's half-
share in Wyth Farm, Mr
Lawson is now thinking
seriously about pressing
ahead with his pledge to
dispose of the gas corpora-
tion's offshore oil inter-
ests.

British Gas has effecti-
vely (and grudgingly) put
its North Sea oilfields into
a package that can be
transferred to the Secretary
of State's name. Once he
has control of the assets, it
is only a matter of time
before Mr Lawson orders
the privatization.

Whether he decides to
opt for the route of share
sales à la Britoil or a
straight asset sale à la
Wyth Farm is something
that can be decided later.

Having ridden the storm
of Britoil's unhappy
launch into the private
sector and seen the shares
rebound to just a few pence
off their original issue
price, Mr Lawson must be
relishing the opportunity
of redeeming his battered
reputation by selling Brit-
ish Gas's oil interests to a
revitalized stock market.

British Gas and its allies
will inevitably again raise
the charges of selling off
assets on the cheap, point-
ing to the fact that some
outside estimates put the
value of the corporation's
oil assets at nearly
£1,000m - whereas the
sale is unlikely to net much
more than £500m, even
allowing for the rally in the
sector.

In practice, there seems
little chance of the prepa-
rations for sale being
completed before the elec-
tion, unless Mrs Thatcher
holds out until next spring.

The rally in oil share
prices since Opec reached
its fragile new pricing
agreement has more than
made up for the previous
setbacks, and seems to be
taking an extraordinarily
optimistic view of future oil
price movements.

But then the market
only has itself to blame if it
lands another great slap of
oil stock that fails to
perform. Investors should
tread with caution.

Oil price rises send pound soaring

By Peter Wilson-Smith

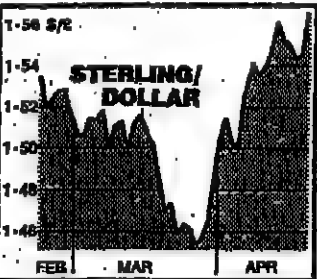
Sterling closed at its highest
point this year on its trade-
weighted value against other
leading currencies after rising
sharply on the foreign exchange
markets yesterday.

Reports of oil price rises from
the Soviet Union and Egypt
were behind the rise and the
pound closed 0.8 point up at
\$4.0 on its trade-weighted
index.

Dealers said that high real
interest rates in the United
Kingdom and continuing hopes
of an early Conservative victory
at the polls also helped the
pound which ended 2.05 cents
up against the dollar at \$1.5660
and 4 1/4 pence higher against
the Deutsche mark at DM5.83.

The dollar began the day
weak after last Friday's good
United States money supply
figures. This led to hopes that
US interest rates may soon fall
and one of the small US banks,
Southwest Bank of St Louis,
yesterday cut its prime rate by
1/4 per cent to 10 per cent.
Southwest Bank has often led
the big money centre banks in
prime rate cuts.

Dealers remained uncon-
vinced that the big US banks
would soon follow the lead and
with fears about the US funding
programme and budget deficit
reassessing themselves the dol-
lar came off the bottom
However, the US money



supply figures and loose prime
rate cut still rubbed off on
domestic markets and the
London stockmarket moved
ahead last yesterday to close up
5.3 at 693.3 and government
stocks ended the day with gains
of up to 2 1/2.

Tomorrow, the US
Treasury's quarterly refunding
programme will be announced
and dealers said that US
markets are likely to remain
cautious until this is out of the
way.

In the London money mar-
kets longer period rates in the
interbank market eased slightly
yesterday although there was
some shortage of overnight
funds at the end of the day.

Egypt and the Soviet Union
have both increased the price of
their crude oil by 50 cents a
barrel, reflecting the increased
confidence among oil traders
that the new Opec reference
price of \$29 a barrel will hold.

UDS surrenders to Hanson

By Jonathan Clare

The battle for UDS, the high
street retailing conglomerate,
finally closed yesterday with the
board's unconditional surrender
to Hanson Trust, which bid
more than £220m.

The decision to recommend
the Hanson offer, which went
unconditional last week, was
promptly followed by the
appointment of four directors
from Hanson. Their first action
was to appoint Hill Samuel as
UDS's financial advisers.

Hill Samuel had been re-
placed briefly by Charterhouse
Japhet because UDS recom-
mended, against Hill
Samuel's advice, the rival bid

from the privately-controlled
Bassishaw consortium.
The move was embarrassing
because Sir Robert Clark,
chairman of UDS, is also
chairman of Hill Samuel.

The Bassishaw consortium
has still not decided what it will
do with its UDS stake of more
than 14 per cent, which is big
enough to stop Hanson gaining
full control. The most likely
outcome is that Bassishaw will
accept Hanson's alternative
cash offer of 133p, but it could
do a deal to buy the Richard
Shops and John Collier chains
from Hanson.

The Burton Group also wants
to buy the two chains and had
previously negotiated a deal
with the UDS board.

All the UDS non-executive
directors, including Sir Robert
and Mr David Vessel, will
resign. Mr Stuart Lyons, the
managing director, and Mr
Robert Lyons, a director, will
also leave the company after
fulfilling their commitment to
an orderly hand-over to Han-
son. They had a "friendly
meeting" with Sir James Han-
son yesterday.

Hanson has acceptances for
more than 62 per cent of UDS
shares, and the offer remains
open until May 6.

Polly Peck shares under fire

By Jeremy Warner

The share price of Polly Peck,
the international trading group
run by Cypriot-born Mr Asil
Nadin, came under further
pressure yesterday after a
weekend press report which
challenged some of the City's
assumptions about the com-
pany's position and prospects.

The shares opened on the
stock market yesterday at
£13.75 - down £7.75 on
Friday's close. They later rallied
to £17.50, down £2 on the day,
after the company said that the
article "contained a number of
inaccuracies and misleading
allegations".

Earlier this year, the shares
were at £35.75.
Polly Peck was recently
criticized by the Cyprus
Government for its activities
and those of its sister company,
Wearwell, in the Turkish-con-
trolled sector of the island.

Polly Peck said that infor-
mation, in an article in last
weekend's Observer newspaper,
on the costs throughput and
price trend of raw materials of
its Uni-Pac fruit-packaging
operations in Cyprus, was
wrong. It added: "We are
confident that the good margins
will continue."

Referring to its project to
make colour television sets in
Turkey, Polly Peck said the
assessment of the market was
also wrong. It claimed that it
had commissioned and received
a detailed feasibility study from
Coopers and Lybrand before
deciding to go ahead with the
project.

The company said that its
auditors, Stoy Hayward, had
said that it did not consider it
appropriate specifically to in-
dicate in its report on last year's
accounts that it had not directly
audited the Uni-Pac accounts.

New chief for Lloyds Bank

Mr Brian Pitman, who takes
over as group chief executive of
Lloyds Bank next December, is
expected to bring a new style of
management to Lloyds - the
smallest of the big four clearing
banks.

At present deputy group chief
executive, he succeeds Mr
Norman Jones who is retiring
on reaching 60 and will become
a deputy chairman of the bank
after next year's annual meet-
ing.

Mr Pitman is said to be a
firm believer in mapping out
clear strategies and is credited
with having played a big part in
introducing operational and
cost controls at Lloyds Bank
International.

The market had had all the
surprise intended because it was
believed that American take-
over rules would prevent Mr
cogan and Mr Swid from buying
in the market until tomorrow.
But they appear to have won an
early dispensation from the
American Securities Exchange
Commission.

The raid came ahead of a
mergers panel meeting today at
which Government officials will
discuss whether the bid should
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It is believed that most of the
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and Mergers Commission.

Sotheby's bidders buy more

The two American financiers
and art collectors attempting to
gain control of Sotheby's yester-
day raided the stock market to
add to their 17 per cent stake.

Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr
Stephen Swid bought a "sub-
stantial" quantity of shares
before the market price rose
above the value of their bid of
520p a share, according to
market sources. However, they
did not manage to take their
stake up to the maximum of 80
per cent allowed under City
takeover rules before the first
closing date of an offer.

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ROLINCO RISES 38% IN 6 MONTHS FOR U.K. SHAREHOLDERS

Between end-August 1982 and
end-February 1983 Rolinco
shares rose by 19% in Dutch
Guilders (the base currency),
or 38% in Sterling terms.

This satisfactory performance
largely results from the
favourable stock climate in the
United States, Japan and
The Netherlands, Rolinco's
main investment countries.

The Report goes on to analyse
in detail the policy pursued to
achieve this investment result.

Rolinco is an equity-based trust,
concentrating on attaining the
maximum capital growth consis-
tent with prudent investment.

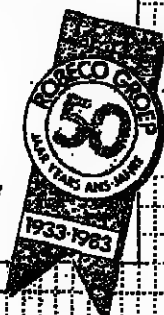
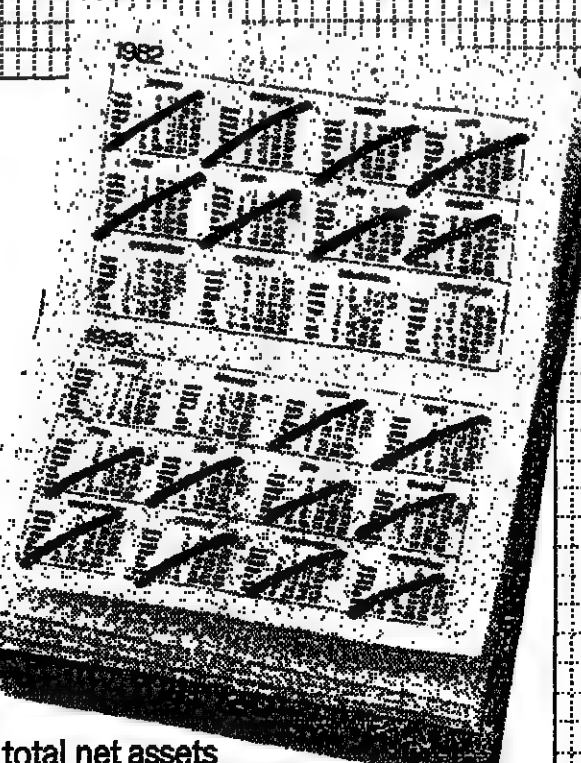
Rolinco forms part of the Robeco
Group of investment companies,
which has its headquarters in
Rotterdam, Holland, and manages

total net assets
of about £ 3,500 million.

Rolinco shares are listed on the
London Stock Exchange, as
also are its sister companies
Robeco and Rorento.

Ask for your copy of the Report and an explanatory
brochure by writing to: Rolinco N.V., Dept. 383, P.O. Box 973,
3000 AZ Rotterdam, Holland.

ROLINCO



COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Metallux Group: "A fair improvement in profitability" although not in time for the interim figures - is predicted for Metallux Group, the Birmingham-based engineers, by Mr John Wardle, the chairman, who also discloses in his annual statement that the group had a "very healthy bank balance. The build-up of work in progress at December 31 was translated into sales", he adds, and shareholders' funds improved to £7.5m from £7m. After describing 1982 as "a red letter year for the group", Mr Wardle concludes: "1983 as a whole should show a fair improvement in profitability. For seasonal and other reasons this is unlikely to be seen at the interim stage".

Edmond Holdings: Application has been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for a placing of 15.6m ordinary shares of 10p each at 14 1/2p per share on behalf of Edmond Holdings plc. The group's principal activity is housebuilding mainly centred on Hull and the surrounding areas of Humberside and North Yorkshire. Brokers to the issue are Stenborg, Thomas Clarke & Co.

Midland Bank Industrial Investments has taken an equity stake in the West End-based film and video editing company, Rushes Postproduction. A financial package from Midland Bank Group worth £500,000, and including a 10 per cent stake in the company, has been agreed to assist with the cost of a newly-completed edit suite and the general expansion of the business.

Newmarket Company (1981): Net revenue, before tax and minorities, for the quarter to March 31 last, £93,000, compared with £851,000 for the similar quarter of 1982.

Midland Bank Holding Finance Ltd ("MBIF"), a subsidiary of Midland Bank, has acquired an 11.15% equity interest in Transatlantic Oil Company in the form of cumulative preferred ordinary shares at a cost of £430,500. MBIF have also made available to Transatlantic a loan facility. Mr Alan J. Marsh will represent MBIF on the board of Transatlantic. Proceeds from the private placement will be used to accelerate investment in new oil and gas projects, as the company feels that there are currently especially attractive opportunities for participation in new ventures. This result from the fact that development costs, burdens and lease costs have fallen faster than oil prices, thus improving the economics of new ventures.

Reed Stenhouse Companies Limited has agreed to sell 1.1m Class "A" shares through a private placement with institutional investors for about £317m (£3m). The proceeds will be used for acquisitions or in the interim to reduce borrowings and increase debt capacity. As part of its ongoing strategy, the company is actively exploring potential acquisition candidates. Wood Gundy Limited acted as agent for the company. Stenhouse Holdings hold the equivalent of 8.22m "A" shares of Reed Stenhouse Companies. This placement will not affect that holding but will reduce Stenhouse

Holdings' proportion of Reed Stenhouse Companies' issued capital from 52.4 to 49.0 per cent. Stenhouse Holdings' voting power has always been restricted to a maximum of 50 per cent and they will now have 49.0 per cent of votes.

Lambert Howarth Group (footwear): In his annual report, Mr J. M. Jackson, the chairman of Lambert Howarth Group, tells shareholders that he remains confident that its recent actions in improving productivity and product design will continue to show benefits in the future.

Spirax-Sarco Engineering: The chairman, Mr A. C. Brown, says in his annual statement that trading profitably as the company has under the conditions prevailing in the market generally, it is evident that increased volume of business in any world recovery would improve the company's profits significantly.

Beneficial Trust: Year-end figures for Beneficial Trust, the UK subsidiary of Beneficial Corporation, show an increase in outstanding balances of 25 per cent on 1981 to £73m. At the same time, lending increased from £33.5m to £48.1m, establishing a new record for the company. Managing director, Mr John France says: "The severe economic climate made 1982 a difficult year and 1983 will undoubtedly prove to be equally challenging. However, I am confident that we have the resource, product range, ability and determination to meet that challenge and look forward to significant real growth in the coming year."

Simon Engineering maintains profit in a difficult year

Preliminary announcement for the year ended 31 December 1982

Group results	1982 £000	1981 £000
Turnover	362,573	339,773
Profit before tax and extraordinary items	20,662	20,328
Profit after tax and before extraordinary items	14,197	15,186
Profit before extraordinary items, attributable to Simon Engineering plc	13,348	13,909
Extraordinary items	(4,970)	(560)
Profit attributable to Simon Engineering plc	8,378	13,349
Dividends paid:		
Preference shares: 6% (now 4.2% plus tax credit)	39	39
Ordinary shares of 25p each:		
Interim 4p per share (1981-4p)	1,041	1,041
Proposed dividend:		
Ordinary shares of 25p each:		
Final 9.25p per share (1981-8.6p)	2,407	2,237
	3,487	3,317
Profit retained	4,891	10,032
Earnings per ordinary share:		
Before extraordinary items	51.1p	53.6p
After extraordinary items	32.0p	51.5p

Extraordinary items: The principal extraordinary item is a provision of £4,896,000 (after tax relief) in respect of costs arising on the cessation of certain activities.

Ordinary dividends: The directors recommend a final dividend of 9.25p per ordinary share, making a total dividend for the year of 13.25p per ordinary share (gross equivalent 18.928p, 1981 18.000p). The final dividend, if confirmed at the annual general meeting to be held on 13 June 1983, will be paid on 1 July 1983 to members registered on 3 June 1983.

Balance sheet:	1982 £m	1981 £m
Fixed assets and associated companies	60.8	59.9
Cash and deposits, less overdrafts	52.2	43.4
Other net current assets	5.1	7.3
	118.1	110.6
Shareholders' funds	95.6	88.5
Minority interests	7.1	8.5
Loan capital	11.1	10.3
Provision for pensions	0.5	0.6
Future and deferred taxation	3.8	2.7
	118.1	110.6

The 1982 accounts above are abridged versions of the audited accounts which will be filed with the Registrar of Companies and for which the report of the auditors was unqualified.

Remarks by the chairman, Harry Harrison

In the face of three years of declining economic activity in the UK and a deepening world recession in 1982, it is no small achievement to have slightly increased profit before tax and extraordinary items.

For all our companies, trading conditions have been difficult and low world levels of demand have intensified the squeeze on margins from international competitors, all with surplus capacity to fill.

In the circumstances it was inevitable that some of our units were unable to repeat their profit performance of last year. In particular, the continuing decline in investment in food processing machinery put our Food Engineering Group under severe pressures and its small increase in turnover was at the cost of much slimmer margins. The Oil Services Group, with its principal markets in the USA, felt the immediate impact of the dramatic decline in the levels of oil services and drilling activity in that country.

With the benefits of its diverse operating base the Manufacturing Group held its turnover reasonably well but again on tighter margins. The Merchandise and Storage Group, though affected in both revenue and margin terms by the general recession in the oil and chemical industries, benefited from the considerable investment in storage we have made in recent years in expanding its facilities.

In the Process Plant Contracting Group some companies had a very difficult year but others did well and brought to profitable completion a number of long-term contracts. With the inclusion of the first full year's profits from Koger & Boxill and Simon-Carves (Africa) as a full subsidiary, the contribution from this group was good.

Overall, our wide spread of interests has again helped us to produce a reasonable result in another year of deep recession. Profit at the trading level showed a small decline but this was made up by an improvement in net interest receivable

and, in total, we have been able to continue our pre-tax profit growth albeit marginally. The extraordinary items reported this year arose partly from the costs of rationalising and restructuring certain activities to improve their competitiveness and partly from the closure, after critical examination, of our drilling muds operation in the USA which incurred heavy losses following the collapse in oil drilling activity referred to earlier.

The profit results, the improvement in our cash position and the strength of our balance sheet are all measures of the great effort from our managers and employees throughout the Group during yet another demanding trading year. We are consequently in a strong position to take advantage of any upturn in trade and also of suitable opportunities for growth by acquisition.

The recovery for which the whole world has been looking is difficult to forecast with any certainty but there do now appear to be more consistent signs that the world economy, led by the USA, is on the upturn. No one is predicting or expecting that we shall quickly return to rapid growth, and in any case it will take time for any improvement to have a sizeable impact on companies supplying capital goods. Nonetheless, the outlook appears more encouraging.

An improvement in world investment and world trade now would be of more benefit to 1984 results than to the current year. Even so, on the assumption that a consistent upturn has truly started, we are looking for a reasonable outcome for 1983.

SIMON ENGINEERING

Simon Engineering plc,
Cheadle Heath, Stockport,
Cheshire SK3 0RT.

Food Engineering; Manufacturing; Process Plant Contracting; Merchandise and Storage; Oil Services

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK edited by Sally White

Hammerson reveals £912m assets

The market has a clearer idea of Hammerson's true value after the board, breaking a lifetime's tradition, yesterday published a valuation of the group's property assets. Hammerson's investment portfolio stands at almost £912m, according to the directors' figures, placing the group about third in the property league behind Land Securities and MEPC.

The group performed well last year. Pre-tax profits up a third at £20m.405m were higher than expected and the shares surged 20% at one point to 725p, reflecting the market's pleasure.

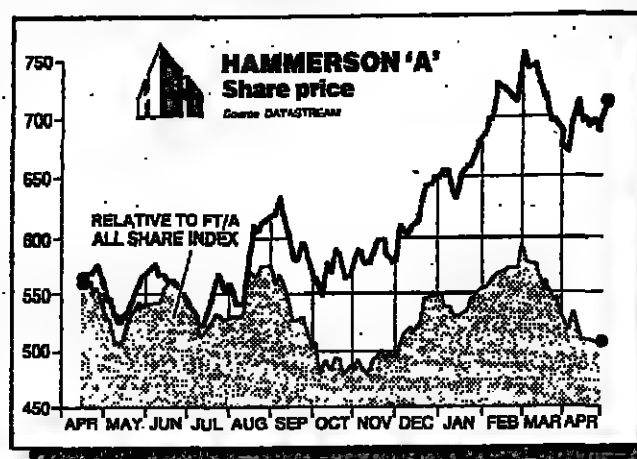
Hammerson's advance was on the back of a hefty uplift in gross rental income which rose from £30.8m to £68.153m. Most of this increase came from important rent reviews at Brent Cross, the 800,000 sq ft shopping centre in North London, and from Australian properties.

Hammerson has spent £41m since 1980 on buying out minority interests in 14 of its buildings in Australia and now a further £6.6m is being earmarked for the acquisition of Australian Mutual Provident Society's mortgages and minority share interests in certain of the group's subsidiaries. Only one building - an office block in Melbourne - is not under the group's full control.

Shareholders will be fairly pleased by a final 10p dividend, taking the year's total to 13p, although some may have been looking for a larger share in the company's success.

Hammerson's cautious and selective development policy means the group can only benefit from any uplift in the world economy, with the consequent increase in demand for office space.

Even with the price around



725p, shares are still trading at a hefty discount to the net asset value, which the company estimates at 977p. Further growth can be expected as more rent reviews and reversions fall due and present developments start to produce income.

Simon Engineering

Simon Engineering
Year to 31.12.83
Pre-tax profit £20.4m (£20.20m)
Stated earnings 51.1p (£50.8p)
Turnover £362.5m (£339.8m)
Net final dividend 9.25p making 13.25p (12.6p)
Share price 42.4p. Yield 4.5%

International overcapacity in the engineering industry put pressure on Simon Engineering's margins last year, but the strength of the balance sheet has produced net cash of £5.5m to bring the pre-tax profit to a barely changed £20.6m.

At the attributable level, however, profits are down from £13m to £8m.

Now, the company is work-

ing hard building up its order book, but it would be a mistake to expect this to show through in this year's profits.

Simon should win the main contract for a £400m chemical complex in Indonesia, and other international contracts are in the pipeline.

The lower sterling level is of more immediate benefit. Qud will affect the translation of overseas earnings, margins and orders. Normally very conservative in its statements, Simon says that it expects the outcome this year to be reasonable, with the international outlook at present seeming more encouraging.

The major squeeze was in food engineering, with profits at £316,000, against £1.4m on sales up from £68m to £73m. Oil services were another difficult area, with profits down from £2m to £1m on sales down from £21m to £17m.

The disappearance of profits in the American oil industry held back acquisition plans last year, and the company is reappraising this year, although

this remains a prime expansion area.

At the end of the year the company was in a net cash position with £30m. Leaving out cash the gearing was 19 per cent. Capital spending was down slightly last year, but should be steady this year. Simon has been cutting costs, and there is a £5m extraordinary item.

Simon's wide range of businesses places it well to improve margins as the recession ends. But this is already in the share price. Progress could be held back by uncertainty on the direction of the acquisitions referred to in the company's statement.

But with hopes of £22m pretax this year, putting earnings prospectively at 37.7p, prospectively, the rating looks modest and is enhanced by hopes of a further dividend increase.

Unilever

A past favourite of the Americans, Unilever has been noticeably absent from the buying lists in the present wave of transatlantic activity in London.

The annual report, published today, restates the company's belief that it must plan on the basis that there will be no improvement in economic conditions this year. That is why the share price remains dull, even though the rating is on a discount of a third to Procter and Gamble.

While Unilever has been planning for slump, the market has an eye to profits growth, but not perhaps until the second half.

Unilever, which is strongly sensitive to volume sales because of the high break even point on so many of its

products, has been taking a radical look at itself over the last 18 months. As a result there has been some heavy cost-cutting.

Market hopes are for about £780m pretax this year, but a clearer picture will emerge with next month's first quarter figures.

Investment

Anecdotal evidence suggests that the heavy outflow of institutional cash into foreign securities eased off considerably in the last couple of months as sterling fell. However, the latest Central Statistical Office figures on institutional flows of funds paint a vivid picture of how the institutions responded to sterling's weakness at the end of last year.

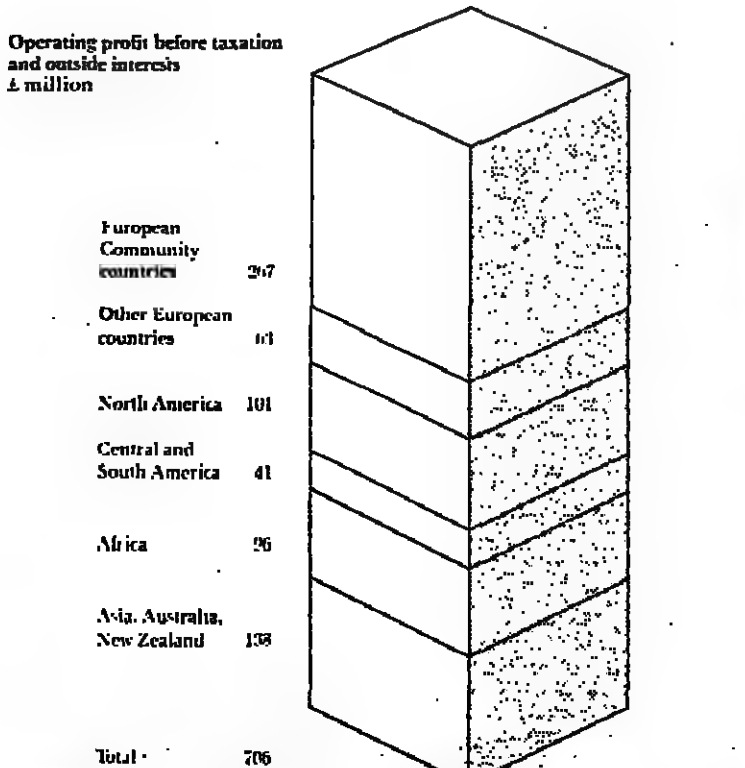
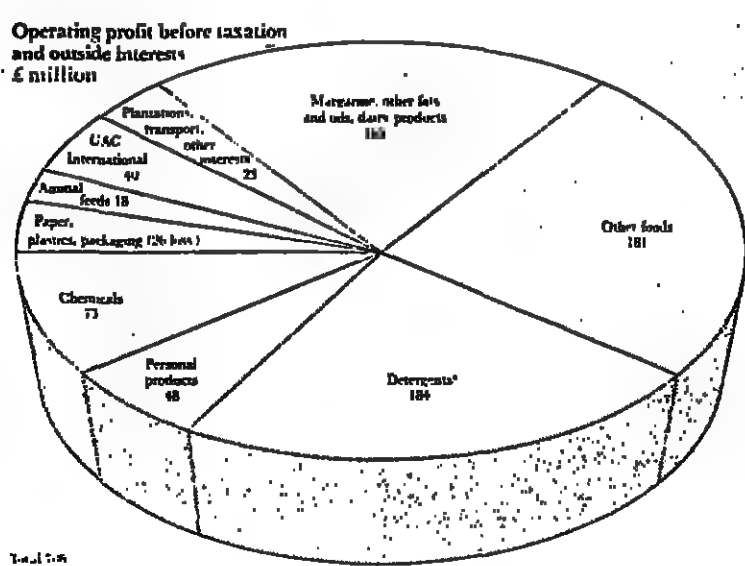
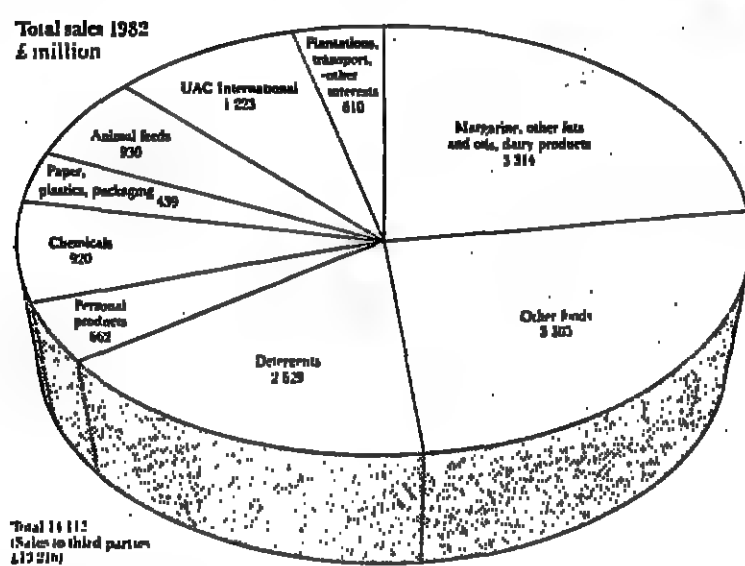
During the final quarter pension funds invested £513m in overseas equities - considerably more than the £302m they pumped into the gilt market and more than the £468m invested in equities.

The investment trusts, net sellers of equities to the tune of £536m last year, stepped up overseas equity investment to £169m in the final quarter of last year.

The net inflow in life assurance and pension funds in the final quarter of last year was less than expected at £3,200m and for the whole of last year net inflows rose by only 2 per cent to £13,100m.

Lump sum pension payments after redundancies and a high volume of life assurance policy surrenders have probably accounted for this. However, once these outflows begin to ease the picture could look very different. Simon & Coates, for instance, still expects net inflows to reach about £15,500m this year.

UNILEVER HELD STEADY IN 1982



For the year 1982 our sales to third parties at closing rates of exchange were £13,216 million compared with £11,889 million in 1981. Sales volume was little changed.

Our results in sterling at £706 million were only just above those in 1981 but a significant factor affecting these results was the high level of restructuring costs, particularly in Europe. These costs, however, made a worthwhile contribution to an increase in productivity of 4% during 1982 in Unilever as a whole. We see these costs as part of the long term investment we are making in the future: a number of our operations improved their performance this year through steps taken in previous years to increase efficiency.

Our Annual Report indicates that we do not expect any significant improvement in world economic conditions in 1983. Nevertheless Unilever is ready to take advantage of any improvement in the world's economies as and when they come.

Unilever

If you would like to receive a copy of the 1982 Report and Accounts please complete this coupon.

To: Public Relations Department, Unilever PLC, P.O. Box 68, Unilever House, London, EC4P 4BQ.

Name _____

Address _____

Economic notebook

Why world banks are safe and sound

At the present time developing countries owe international banks about \$300,000m (£196,000m) which is about 30 per cent of net international bank lending. Of this perhaps £180,000m is at risk, so that the international banking system has about 18 per cent of its balance sheet exposed to sovereign risk.

Bankers are understandably cautious about revealing this information but it is estimated that their equity capital is \$180,000m.

If the worst came to the worst and all of the \$180,000m were subject to default, the equity capital would be inadequate and the international banking system would collapse. Alternatively, \$30,000m of extra equity capital would have to be raised to save the system.

My contention is that provided the international banking system is fundamentally healthy, this extra equity capital would be forthcoming and the world capital market will effectively write off the bad debts thus preventing the baby from being thrown out with the bath water.

As our own case of the Smith St. Anlyn discount house demonstrates, the capital market is prepared to write off bad debts as long as the business is fundamentally sound. But if it is fundamentally unsound, this will not happen and the banks will crash.

The worst is unlikely to happen. However, it is conceivable that a large international bank will suffer a default that will threaten its existence. If the bank is otherwise sound, the capital market will be prepared to write off its debts and the necessary equity will be forthcoming.

But what happens if it is unsound and the capital market allows it to collapse? The conventional view is that the rest of the banking system will collapse in sympathy for two reasons. First, depositors will take fright that an epidemic is about to spread and will withdraw their

deposits, thus precipitating multiple bank closures.

Secondly, there will be knock-on effects through the interbank market insofar as other banks have lent to the bank which has failed. Deposit flight would only be justified if the interbank network would indeed trigger domino effects.

If bank X has failed and bank Y has lent part of its assets to bank X, bank Y must make provisions for those bad debts.

As long as bank Y is fundamentally sound the capital market will, if necessary, generate sufficient equity and it will continue in business.

In this respect banks are no different to other corporations. The logic of interbank transactions no more implies the demise of the international financial system when one bank or even a clutch of banks fail, than does the logic of interindustry transactions imply the demise of the entire economy when one company or group of companies fail.

So what is all the fuss about? Because of their exposure, bankers are understandably trying to protect themselves by putting pressure on governments and international agencies which are all too ready to assume new powers to help them out. They proclaim the gravity of the "crisis" and suggest ingenious schemes to bail them out.

All lobbyists are essentially similar and bankers are no exception. In the meanwhile, we are being panicked into reforms of the international financial system which we will live to regret.

Once the veil of ignorance comes down it is very difficult to draw back. My fear is that we are taking ourselves into a crisis that need not happen. If we all persuade ourselves that a default must cause the entire system to collapse, then it will. The point is that there is no fundamental reason why this should happen.

Michael Beenstock

The author is Professor of Finance and Investment at the City University Business School.

The conflict between Britain's two leading lawnmower manufacturers that has become so public in the past two weeks is a classic example of the primitive and sophisticated sides of a marketing world red in tooth and claw.

People do not use the terms "marketing battles" and "advertising campaigns" lightly: the only difference between these war games and those played in the home is that in this world millions of pounds and thousands of jobs are at stake.

What is unusual about the battle between Qualcast and Flymo - in which each claims market leadership and disputes the other's product performance and advertising claims - is that for the past three years it has been fought in the full gaze of the public, with editorial coverage as well as advertising.

The reason this conflict has become public is that one of those taking part decided to make it so. As a significant part of its market strategy it decided to take advantage of the relaxation of the rules governing comparative advertising that took place in the 1970s in order to challenge its rival head-on.

Qualcast had traditionally dominated Britain's lawnmower market with its cylinder mowers, but by the end of the 1970s it was facing problems as Flymo's revolutionary new "hover" mowers, with their rotary cutting action, captured the public's imagination. By 1979, the cylinder sector was declining significantly, while the hovers, which were seen as more modern, were taking an increasing share of the market.

That year, Qualcast appointed a new advertising agency, Wight Collins Rutherford Scott, which carried out research among lawnmower users to see how the electric cylinder mowers were seen in comparison with the hovers.

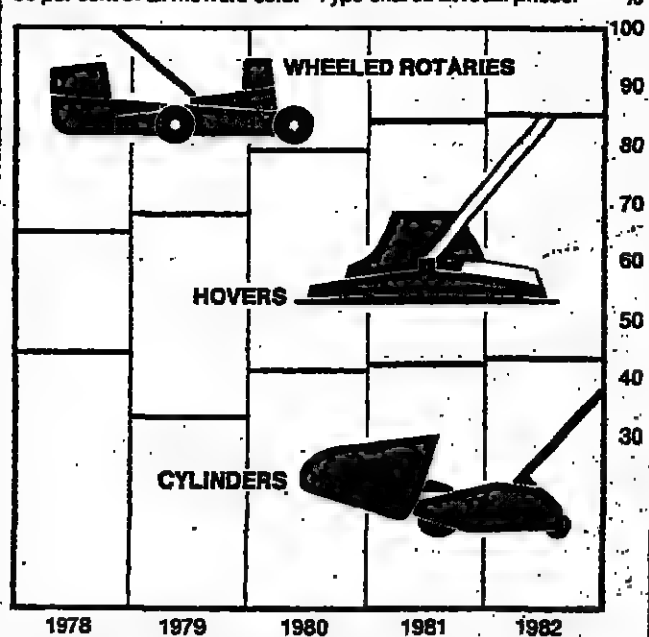
"The research confirmed our worst fears," says the agency's report of the Qualcast case history. "The hover/Flymo proposition had a firm grip on the consumer mind, spelling out lightness and total manoeuvrability (side to side, back and forth), thereby making grass cutting an extension of house-

Torin Douglas reports on the 'hover bover' that besets the gardening world

How cut and thrust of the lawnmower business went public

CHANGING SHARES OF THE MOWER MARKET

Light mains electric mowers which account for 80 per cent of all mowers sold. Type shares at retail prices.



hold cleaning - a sort of garden Hoovering. It was versatile (it was believed to cope with all the awkward bits - under bushes, up to edges, over bumps, up and down banks). Together these split effortlessness, the perfect mower for a woman to use, and for the small garden."

However, its research also showed that when people tried Qualcast's own electric cylinder mower, the Concorde E30, they thought it did a better job and was just as easy to use. Most important of all, it proved in the end far less of an effort because it collected the clip-

pings as it mowed, thus avoiding the need to rake them up or to leave them on the lawn. It was this factor that became the cornerstone of the 1980 Qualcast campaign and its slogan "It's a lot less bover than a hover".

It was that commercial, showing the hover leaving cuttings on the lawn and the Concorde leaving a beautiful striped finish, that started the "bover" that continues to this day. Flymo complained about the commercial, but its complaints were rejected. The next year it retaliated with its own

TOTAL UK MOWER MARKET ('000 units)

Year	Units
1978	1,385
1979	1,360
1980	1,435
1981	1,520
1982	1,320

TURNOVER AND PROFIT

Year	Turnover (£m)	Profit (£m)
1978	39	2.7
1979	35	2.2
1980	42	3.3
1981	47	4.4
1982	41	2.5

FLYMO LTD

Year	Turnover (£m)	Operating profit (£m)
1978	14	1.5
1979	21	2.9
1980	35	3.8
1981	43	3.1
1982	-	-

* Figures not yet available - subsidiary of Electrolux.

comparative advertising in the press, stressing the speed of the hover and maintaining that there was no need to collect the clippings as they formed a beneficial mulch on the lawn. Qualcast complained to the Advertising Standards Authority about this campaign and had its complaints upheld.

Mr Peter Mostyn, marketing director says: "Prior to the start of our campaign in 1980, the cylinder sector was declining significantly. We stopped that decline and started the growth of cylinder mowers again. We're not denying that

hover sales are continuing to grow and so is their share of the market. But the source of their growth is changing and it now comes at the expense of the wheeled rotary mowers and not at ours." The campaign won Qualcast and Wight Collins an Advertising Effectiveness Award last year.

Mr Mostyn maintains that by using comparative advertising, Qualcast is giving the public information in order to demolish what he sees as "misconceptions" about lawn mowing that grew up with the hovers. "One myth was that it wasn't necessary to pick up the cuttings because they acted as a mulch - it doesn't, it simply leaves a mess. It has taken three years for us to get this message across."

It is the Flymo grass-collecting mower - and their performance - that has led to the latest row, for Qualcast, having seen its rival respond to its criticisms by improving its product, has again taken the issue head-on. It maintains that the Flymo XE28, its most popular grass-collecting hover, leaves 40 per cent of the clippings on the lawn and is hard to push in grass two-and-a-half inches long and it has said as much - and claims to show it - in its new commercial.

What has given strength to the Qualcast television commercials over the past three years is the fact that all claims made in the advertisements have to be verified and Wight Collins has given the Independent Television Companies Association (ITCA) mounds of evidence from independent tests, conducted by the Production Engineering Research Association (PERA), to back up its claims. The present commercial goes further in "knocking" its rival than any previous one, yet it still received ITCA approval.

Flymo disputes the evidence, however, and even accuses the ITCA and PERA of taking Qualcast's side in the dispute. It has succeeded in getting two changes to the wording.

Last week at a press conference to mark Flymo's Queen's Award for Technological Achievement - given for its use of robots in building the mowers - Mr Peter Bullock, managing director was scathing

in his enticement of the Qualcast advertising. "We think the reason for their knocking campaign is their desperation to try and halt their declining market share," he said.

Mr Bullock maintains that the pre-Qualcast commercial, even with its corrections, is still misleading in that it shows the Flymo being used at a different cutting level than that recommended by the manufacturers. In addition, Flymo has just brought out a revolutionary grass-collecting hover, the XE38, that performs far better than the XE28 and really does "Hoover" up the cuttings.

What is certainly confusing is the rival claims about the market share, since both companies maintain they have market leadership. Qualcast says it has 47 per cent of the total mower market, Flymo 31 per cent and Black & Decker 18 per cent, while Flymo maintains that its own share of the power mower market, which accounts for 95 per cent of all mowers sold, is 35 per cent, against Qualcast's 32 per cent and Black & Decker's 20 per cent.

The market in Britain is worth about £60m a year, with 1.3 million mowers being sold last year, but it is heavily dependent on the weather.

Where Flymo really scores is in its export performance. About 25 to 30 per cent of the 750,000 mowers it sold last year went overseas. It claims 20 per cent of the European market, won the Queen's Award for Exports last year and is about to tackle the enormous American market. A subsidiary of the Swedish Electrolux group, it has worldwide patents on many of its developments, including the rear-suction process on its new XE38.

Mr Mostyn agrees that the XE38 is a far better product than the XE28 shown in the Qualcast commercial but he maintains that there are still other misconceptions that must be tackled. "We would love everyone to be able to do their own comparative test between the Concorde and the hovers. Meanwhile, the revival of the controversy - with a little help from the weather - has boosted lawnmower sales dramatically."

"Investing in Success" Equities PLC

24th ANNUAL REPORT Year to 31 January 1983

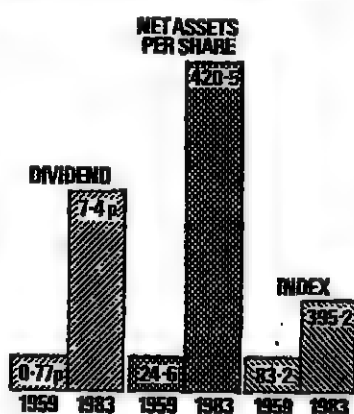
Successful long term growth since 1959

Dividend has increased 861%

Net asset value per share has increased 1609%

"Our investment policy remains unchanged. There are many excellent companies in the U.K. whose profits grow year by year and which are as well managed and as efficient as anywhere else in the world. There are also many excellent companies in Japan and the U.S.A. to enable us to continue our policy of 'Investing in Success'."

Copies of the Accounts are available from: City Financial Administration Limited, Regis House, King William Street, London EC4R 3AR.



Britannia Arrow Holdings PLC

Pre-tax profits rise by 42%

Summary of Results: Year to 31st December, 1982

Pre-tax profits up 42% to £6.0m (1981 £4.2m)

Total ordinary dividend increased to 1.7p net (1981 1.5p net)

Earnings per share up to 4.5p (1981 4.0p)

The Rt. Hon. Geoffrey Rippon Q.C., M.P. makes the following points in his Chairman's Statement:—



Our five year record shows uninterrupted growth, not only of profits but also of earnings, dividends and assets per share.

Fund management division — £1,200m now under management compared with £200m 5 years ago.

Further acquisitions are envisaged particularly in the U.S.A. where agreement in principle has been reached to acquire an investment management group in Boston, Mass., with funds in excess of \$1,600m.

Every confidence that the Company will again be strengthened and its profitability increased in the current year.

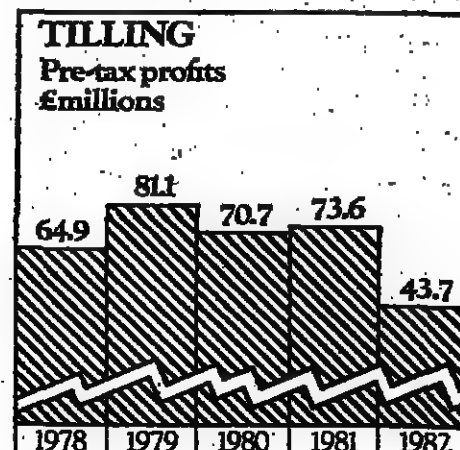
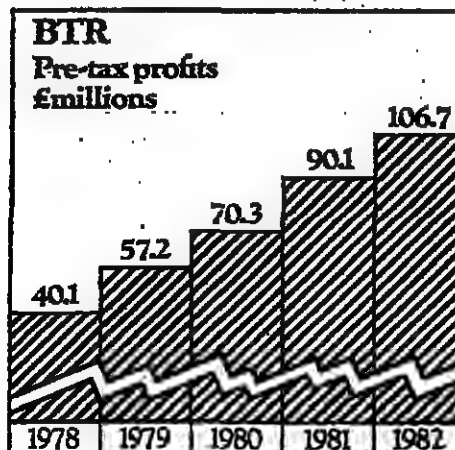
Annual General Meeting at Ironmongers' Hall, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C.2. on Thursday, 19th May, 1983.

Copies of the Annual Report and Information concerning the activities of the Group, which include a wide range of unit trusts and investment management services, may be obtained from: The Secretary, Britannia Arrow Holdings PLC, Salisbury House, 15 Salisbury Court, London EC2M 3SL.

This advertisement is published by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited on behalf of BTR plc.



The record speaks for itself.
The measure of BTR's management depth, strength and resources is its continuing success.
1982 was BTR's 16th consecutive year of growth in pre-tax profits. How does Tilling compare?



BTR — Tilling
There's no comparison.



BACK THE BTR BID

The directors of BTR plc (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate and each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
Prices in pounds per metric ton			
Basis: 100 tons, including 10.00 tons			
	Y'day's	Previous	Close
High grade copper	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Three months	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Standard cash (copper)	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Three months	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Standard cash (tin)	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Three months	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Standard cash (lead)	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Three months	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Standard cash (zinc)	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Three months	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Standard cash (nickel)	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Three months	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Standard cash (aluminium)	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Three months	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Standard cash (silver)	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Three months	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Standard cash (gold)	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00
Three months	1157-1160.50	1156.50	1157.00

Australian ruling confirms hard line on foreign cash

From Tony Dobson, Melbourne

The new Labour government has clearly indicated over the past few weeks the tough position it will be adopting on foreign investment in Australia. The federal government has rejected a foreign land sale, the second time it has done this since it came to power early last month.

In the latest action, Mr Paul Keating, the Treasurer, ordered the foreign purchase of rural land intended purely for capital gains.

The chance for the government to act came when the family sought to transfer ownership of the properties from one

more than DLS200,000 (£119,000) each, was bought in 1979 and 1980 by Messrs F. and A. Hatoun. The previous government approved the purchase on the basis that the properties were to be developed for cattle and deer raising.

However, Mr Keating said that neither property had been developed and that the government did not approve proposals for the foreign purchase of rural land intended purely for capital gains.

The land, in two parcels of 1,335 acres and 340 acres, worth

company to another, technically a sale under the foreign investment rules. Announcing his decision, Mr Keating said: "An objective of policy is majority Australian participation in new projects."

Earlier the federal government moved to block the sale to the Australian subsidiary of the British group, Cadbury Schweppes and the Nelson group of the local confectionery company Allen's.

The government also stepped in to stop the sale of part of the food operations of the Elders DXL group to the Anglo-Dutch company Unilever.

Hyman's losses up

The hoped-for "acceptable results" at J & J Hyman, the Manchester foam manufacturer, for the full year have failed to materialize after huge second half losses in the computer division.

The total loss last year was £424,000, against £346,000 after a small half year profit. The computer division's "severe and abnormal" problems were aggravated by a slower-than-expected improvement in demand for Hyman's traditional products.

After extraordinary items totalling £490,000, the attributable loss was £658,000, against £281,000. The extraordinary items were a loss on overseas investments of nearly £800,000 offset by property profits in Britain of more than £400,000.

J & J Hyman 82
Pre-tax loss £424,000 (£346,000)
Stated loss 0.81p (0.61p)
Turnover £22.2m (20.7m)
Net dividend 0.1p (0.1p)
Share price 19.5p (20.5p)
Dividend payable 20.6.83

The interest charge was increased from £497,000 to £775,000 reflecting the investment in new technology.

The first quarter of this year was "very satisfactory" and all the company's subsidiaries were profitable except for the computer division.

Much of the investment in new technology was written off. A nominal dividend is being paid for the second year running.

Imports of shoes up

By Derek Harris

Commercial Editor

Britain's footwear manufacturers are facing a renewed threat from growing imports. Imports were comparatively stable in the second half of last year at about 50 per cent of the British market in volume terms. But in January imports jumped 10 per cent on annual comparison according to the British Footwear Manufacturers' Federation.

Italy, the largest single source of imports, increased its exports to Britain in January by 28 per cent compared with the same month a year ago. Imports from Taiwan, third largest foreign supplier to Britain, jumped 62 per cent.

WALL STREET

APR 25	APR 26	APR 25	APR 26	APR 25	APR 26
AMEX 100	179.75	179.75	179.75	AMEX 100	179.75
AMEX 200	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 200	217.25
AMEX 300	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 300	217.25
AMEX 400	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 400	217.25
AMEX 500	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 500	217.25
AMEX 600	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 600	217.25
AMEX 700	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 700	217.25
AMEX 800	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 800	217.25
AMEX 900	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 900	217.25
AMEX 1000	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1000	217.25
AMEX 1100	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1100	217.25
AMEX 1200	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1200	217.25
AMEX 1300	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1300	217.25
AMEX 1400	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1400	217.25
AMEX 1500	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1500	217.25
AMEX 1600	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1600	217.25
AMEX 1700	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1700	217.25
AMEX 1800	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1800	217.25
AMEX 1900	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 1900	217.25
AMEX 2000	217.25	217.25	217.25	AMEX 2000	217.25

APPOINTMENTS

Mr David Moxley has been elected managing director of Touche Ross International. He will continue as managing partner of Touche Ross & Co.

Mr Michael H. Foster has been appointed to the board of Courage as marketing director.

Mr John G. Payton has become managing director of Thorn EMI Instruments at Dover, Kent. He succeeds Mr Christopher Power, now president of System-Donner Incorporated - Thorn EMI Technology's American electronics subsidiary in California.

Mr Michael Reaveley, formerly an executive vice president and chief manager at Barclays Bank International's corporate branch in New York, has become an executive vice president and a director of Barclays Bank of Canada.

Mr Graham D. Hill has been appointed a director of Guinness Mahon Leasing and an assistant director of Guinness Mahon & Co.

Mr A. J. B. Mawdsley, the finance director of International Thompson Organisation, has joined the board of Wigham Poland Holdings.

Mr Nigel Burton has joined Hambro Life Assurance as head of international operations.

Mr Keith R. Jamieson is to join Lyons Tolley as managing director. Mr Stephen H. Alexander will become a director with responsibility for special projects.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10%
Barclays	10%
BCCI	10%
Consolidated Cds	10.5%
C Hoare & Co	10%
Lloyds Bank	10%
Midland Bank	10%
Nat Westminster	10%
TSB	10%
Williams & Glyn's	10%

* 7 day advance on basis of under-200,000, 14 day £200,000 and over, 8 1/2%.

Granville & Co Limited.

(Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)
27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 071-621 1212
The Over-the-Counter Market

1000/50	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Open	Close	YTD	P/E	Yield
140	120	130	Ass Brit Ind Ord	134	-	6.4	4.8	7.8	10.2	-
158	117	127	Ass Brit Ind CULS	151	-	10.0	6.6	-	-	-
74	57	67	Airgroup Group	62nd	-	6.1	9.8	17.7	17.7	-
46	30	40	Armstrong & Rhodes	30	-	4.3	14.3	3.3	5.9	-
221	197	207	Bardon Hill	221	-	17.4	3.6	13.5	17.0	-
143	100	110	CCL 11.0% Conv Pref	143	-	15.7	11.0	-	-	-
270	210	220	Chadwick Group	210	-	17.6	8.4	-	-	-
86	51	61	Deborah Services	51	-	6.6	11.8	3.4	9.1	-
97	77	87	Frank Horrell	97	-	-	-	8.1	8.7	-
95 1/2	75 1/2	85 1/2	Frank Horrell Pr Ord	85 1/2	-	8.7	9.1	10.6	11.4	-
83	61	71	Frederick Parker	61	-	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.2	-
35	24	34	George Bluff	34	-	-	-	5.9	12.3	-
100	74	84	Ind Free Castings	74	-	7.3	9.5	10.0	12.6	-
165	100	115	Isis Conv Pref	165	-	15.7	9.5	-	-	-
144	94	104	Jackson Group	144	-	11.5	5.2	4.4	9.2	-
214	111	121	James Burroughs	111	-	9.6	4.5	15.6	17.4	-
260	148	158	Robert Jenkins	152	-	20.0	13.2	1.7	24.1	-
83	54	64	Scruttons "A"	71	-	3.7	8.0	9.2	11.7	-
167	112	122	Torday & Carlisle	115	-	11.1	9.9	5.2	8.8	-
29	21	31	Unilock Holdings	25.5	-	0.46	1.8	-	-	-
25	64	74	Walter Alexander	67	-	6.4	9.6	4.8	6.9	-
270	214	224	W. S. Yeates	265	-	17.1	6.5	4.1	8.5	-

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Annual General Meeting of the Members will be held in 150 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5NQ on Wednesday 27th April 1983 at Noon.

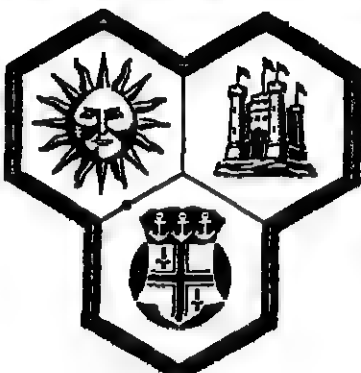
By Order of the Directors
W. PROUDFOOT
Chief General Manager and Actuary
150 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow
G2 5NQ, 16th March, 1983.



The 145th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of MEMBERS of THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION will be held on TUESDAY 17th MAY, 1983 at 2.30 pm in the HEAD OFFICE, 6 ST. ANDREW SQUARE, EDINBURGH EH2 2YA.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from this address.

J. M. MACHARG
General Manager and Actuary
6 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA
19th April, 1983



SUN ALLIANCE INSURANCE GROUP

Comments by the Chairman - Lord Aldington

The world insurance markets were in a bad way in 1982, very much as we had warned; and Sun Alliance's underwriting losses rose sharply, as happened in other insurance companies. Despite those losses there was a healthy gain to your Company's financial strength based on the market value of its assets, and our solvency margin at the end of the year was 112%. You have my assurance that this strong asset position does not reduce in any way our resolve to underwrite responsibly. Indeed, a proper return on your assets can be achieved only if we do so.

For a long time now we have had our expenses under close control and we completed a further reorganisation in 1982; throughout we have maintained a prudent underwriting policy. But the major problem we face is the market climate in which underwriters are quoting too low rates and paying insufficient attention to changes in risks and in the amount of compensation being awarded in courts of law. I hope that those who say they detect signs of improvement in these matters are correct. As conditions improve you may be sure that we shall seize every opportunity for expansion allowed by our high solvency margin.

Underwriting experience in 1982 deteriorated for two principal reasons: competition in nearly all the world's insurance markets became more intense and continuing economic recession reduced world trade and therefore the amount of insurance business.

The exceptionally severe weather in the early months of the year gave rise to claims on the Group of £23.5m in the United Kingdom alone. Net of reinsurance, the cost was £15.5m and our own underwriting loss for the year increased to £70.9m compared with £36.8m in 1981.

Mainly because our investment income grew by £19m our profit before tax was not reduced so much - £56.8m against £70.9m.

It is fair to say that the investment experience of insurers during 1982 has been exceptionally profitable. The effect of falling, but still high real, interest rates and strongly rising fixed interest and equity values in the world's principal markets may seem to justify those who are prepared to accept underwriting losses and rely upon investment returns outweighing them.

The position has been reached, however, in many markets and classes of insurance where investment income is already more than offset by the underwriting losses generated by the business and reliance upon stock markets to maintain the solvency and indeed viability of insurers has its obvious dangers.

I have previously stressed in these Statements that Sun Alliance believe that underwriting profit is necessary for the long term health and stability of the industry and that we aim and strive to achieve it. The impossibility of doing so in present conditions remains a matter of concern to me which is not lessened by the knowledge that many very reputable insurers are faring worse than the Sun Alliance.

Operations

In the United Kingdom heavy fire losses, poor liability and private motor results, a much increased loss in the Republic of Ireland and weather losses all helped to turn our traditionally profitable home business into sizeable loss. The outcome was, however, better than we might have expected from the results for the first six months.

The serious loss in Canada was disappointing and our United States underwriting loss was doubled by the need to increase reserves against long outstanding medical malpractice claims as we reported last September.

Continuing remedial action bore fruit in a number of overseas countries. However, Australian losses, whilst staunch, are still unacceptably high.

Summary of Results - 1982

	1982	1981
	£m	£m
Premium Income		
General Insurance	789.9	703.6
Long-term Insurance	208.0	173.3
	997.9	876.9
General Insurance Underwriting Result	(70.9)	(36.8)
Long-term Insurance Profits	7.0	6.1
Investment Income	119.9	101.1
Other Income	0.8	0.5
Profit before Taxation	56.8	70.9
Taxation and Minority Interests	20.8	29.1
Profit attributable to Shareholders	36.0	41.8
Dividend	23.7	21.2
Profit Retained	12.3	20.6
Earnings per Share	73.0p	84.8p
Dividend per Share	48.0p	43.0p

The Annual General Meeting of Sun Alliance and London Insurance plc will be held on 18th May, 1983 at the Head Office, Bartholomew Lane, London EC2.

Sandy McLachlan looks at elusive wonder of Woolies

Woolworth still in search of a winning strategy

F. W. Woolworth completed two years of record profits in Britain in 1974. But followers of the retail scene were not impressed by the US-controlled company's performance.

The most extreme comment came from a stockbroker analyst who said that Woolworth was a "buy" recommendation. His reason was that "the situation is now so bad that it can only be a matter of time before the US parent, at long last, picks up the UK disaster area, shakes it by the scruff of the neck and drops it after a large intravenous injection of top flight management".

Almost 10 years on, Woolworth is in a not dissimilar situation. The American connexion has been severed, the company is now wholly British-owned, and it has just produced a set of figures that prompted the market to push the shares up by 20p to a new high of 277p.

But the new British management has done little in its three-month period of tenure to change this retailing leviathan. The latest figures which excited the market so much reflect little more than the better figures reported by the rest of the retail trade for the last quarter of 1982.

So what is the wonder of Woolies? In spite of the market's view, it is hard to see. The group has the right-sized stores in the wrong positions; more importantly, it has the wrong-sized stores in the right

The group has the right-sized stores in wrong places

positions. Its product range, and its image in the eyes of the consumer are both still suspect, and Mr John Beckett, its new chairman, admits that the company is not going to be turned round by a short-term miracle.

In fact, all that has really changed is that the new management has openly admitted the problems that exist. Mr Beckett himself pinpoints areas that others have been preaching for years: "The original brilliant retailing concept of Frank Woolworth has become blunted and diluted over the years and progressively less related to the need of the modern consumer."

In today's retailing terms, that means that Woolworth is still a "variety store", falling



Mr John Beckett (left), new chairman, with Mr Victor Blank, who advised the consortium that bought the company from its former American parent.

between the various stools of hypermarkets, supermarkets, retail specialists in specific fields *et al*.

This point is highlighted by another remark by Mr Beckett: "The confusion of purpose had a number of consequences, one of which was a proliferation of merchandise".

The group has had a number of false dawns aimed at moving into new areas (for example Woolco and 21st Century Shopping), but has never really got to grips with deciding what to sell in its 1,000 or so traditional outlets.

That, in turn, leads to yet another dilemma, which Mr Beckett is prepared to bring into the open: the property value of the group. "... we were not satisfied that the property disposal programme started by the previous board would be consistent with new trading policies. The property portfolio is the single most important physical asset possessed by the business."

Property sales have been halted while a review of the property portfolio is undertaken. It may be unkind to take the view that this stance means Woolworth is more valuable as a property exercise than a retailing chain. But it is not a view that can be written off altogether.

The new Woolworth management team, which started life as Paternoster Stores last autumn, set out on a the much-pub-

lized search for a "miracle worker" chief executive to put these (and other) problems right. But the failure to find this "messiah" has had little adverse reaction on the stock market's faith in Woolworth.

It is prepared to accept the promise of imports of bright young retailers in senior positions together with the long-standing promise of home-grown products emerging as management high-flyers.

Coming down to earth still further, perhaps the most important factor underlying the share price is the apparent acceptance of the 80/20 principle by the Woolworth management. This is a favourite management concept in most businesses, and at Woolworth it

The old concept has become blunted and diluted

means that four-fifths of the trading lines are staying too long on the shelf.

That Woolworth is trying to get to grips with this problem is evidenced by the reduction in the number of lines stocked, the number of suppliers used and - probably most indicative - the number of buyers employed by the company. These are tangible improvements.

It remains incontrovertible, however, that you do not

change a group like Woolworth overnight. Under new management, the group has a new capital structure. In financial terms this is obviously important because extra bank and loan-stock interest make the new parent company, Woolworth Holdings, a highly geared animal.

But in the long-term the future of Woolworth in the high street will depend on its ability to find a trading image that will pull in not just customers - but also their money. For the last decade at least, Woolworth has had a very high volume of customer throughput, but the average amount spent has been pitifully low compared with Marks & Spencer or British Home Stores.

Mr Beckett will not say that the planned divisionalization of the Woolworth management structure will lead to, or be accompanied by, divisionalization of the group in the retail outlets. But the B & Q do-it-yourself branches have contributed most to the group's improving profit record, and it is hard to see how Woolworth can get its trading aspect right without stores specialization, no matter how good its management is.

Both size and location are an inheritance from the past, and today's retailing structure offers little joy for a traditional variety store operating from a prime high-street site.

1982 - A particularly successful year for Equity & Law

Extracts from the statement by the Chairman, Mr P D J H Cox, circulated with the Report and Accounts for 1982:

* Shareholders' earnings rose by 25% and the dividend has been increased from 15.0p to 18.5p per share.

* New annual premiums rose from £25.1m to £27.1m despite a drop of £2.5m in increments under existing pension schemes; new single premiums were £46.6m compared with £27.6m in 1981.

* Our overseas operations now make a significant contribution to the Society's new business, mostly from Holland but with an increasing proportion from Germany. In 1982 17% of our total new annual premium income arose overseas and more than a third of our new single premiums.

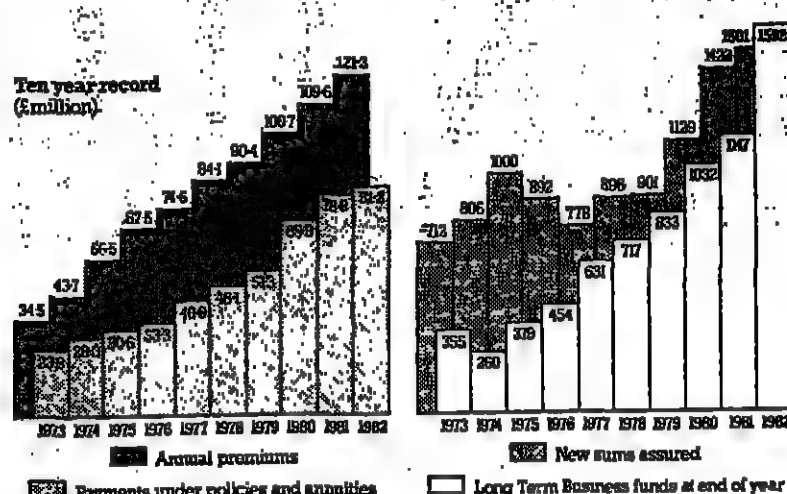
* The Society's individual with-profit new business, with new annual premiums rising from £5.6m to £9.0m and new single premiums of £3.7m, should contribute particularly to future profits.

* Invested assets increased 37% to over £1,750m.

* Equity & Law is strong financially, it has an expert staff and it offers a wide range of modern products. I am confident, therefore, that 1983 will be another very successful year.

Highlights of the Year	1982 £ million	1981 £ million
New Sums Assured	1,501	1,422
New Annual Premiums	27.1	25.1
Total Premium Income	168.1	137.7
Payments to Policyholders	81.2	78.8
Group Net Assets	1,724	1,273
Investment Reserve	130	123
Dividend for the Year	3.72	3.01

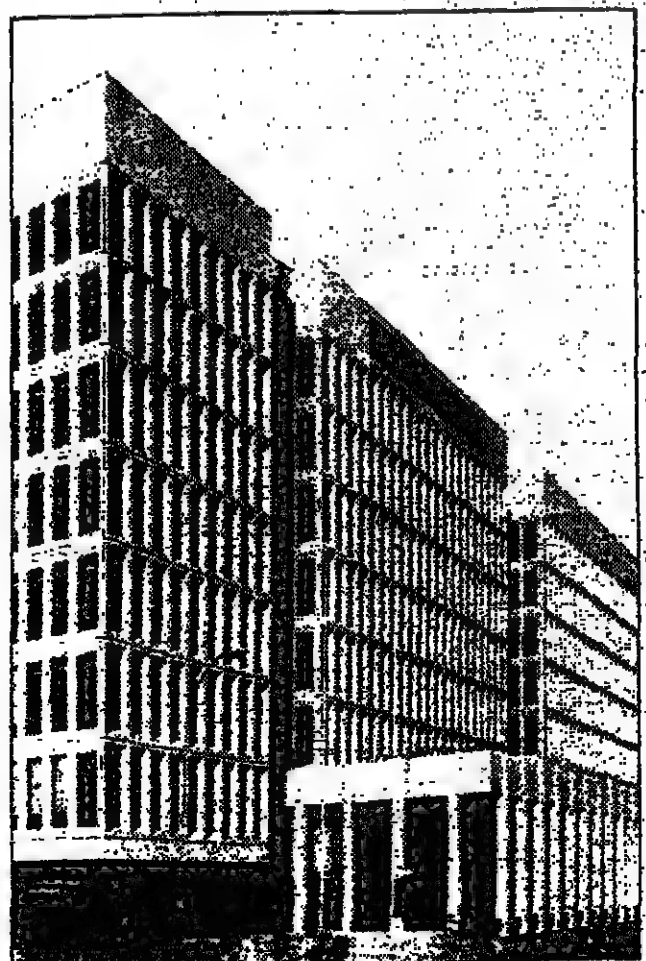
Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, Equity & Law Life Assurance Society plc, 20 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3ES



Equity & Law

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement.

Building Society seeks more mergers and greater co-operation with other financial institutions.



Head Office: Provincial House, Bradford

Following National & Provincial's successful merger between the Burnley and Provincial in December, the new society is already looking towards the next

In his statement to members at the Society's Annual General Meeting on 25 April, Chairman Mr. Dennis Howroyd predicts that further mergers will be sought. He says:

"The merger between national societies of the size of The Burnley and Provincial was a major financial event and one which provided a strong indication of the beliefs we hold regarding the future structure and requirements of our Industry. Having demonstrated an ability to achieve a major merger we have strengthened our appeal to other societies who take a similar view of the future. We will therefore continue an active search for further partners as a matter of priority."

Commenting on the future role of building societies he said:

"Powers for Societies to set up Banks and Insurance Companies do not, I feel, sit easily, with the

views which I have already expressed on the need for mergers within our Industry particularly bearing in mind the need to avoid costly duplication of effort. There is a strong case for exploring the common ground between financial institutions in order to avoid a serious fragmentation of effort leading to higher costs for the consumer."

Extracts from the 1982 Results

- More to homebuyers. The two constituent societies lent over £700m which enabled over 38,000 families to buy their own homes.

- More for home improvements. £62m lent to existing customers.

- More investors. 290,000 new accounts were opened during the year which increased the total in number at 31 December to over 1.6 million.

- More growth. Assets increased by 17.7% to £3,365m.

- More convenience. Customers needs are now serviced by 372 branches and 1018 agents.

"I commend these results to you in this, the first year of National & Provincial Building Society. May I say that I look forward with optimism to even greater progress in the years ahead in the full knowledge that our merger has given us the added size and strength we need to ensure our future success."

- Dennis Howroyd, Chairman.



National & Provincial
Incorporating The Burnley Building Society
More strength to help more people.

Malaysia orders GEC videotext system

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

GEC Computers has won a £2.7m contract to install a public videotext system in Malaysia on similar lines to Britain's Prestel.

The order, which was won against intense competition from Japan, Canada and particularly from France, puts Britain in a strong position to dominate the huge potential market for telephone-based information systems in the Far East.

Hongkong already runs a British videotext system, also supplied by GEC, and Singapore is expected to place a big order this year.

Mr Frank Burgess, general manager of Prestel, said that a British consortium, headed by Aegon, the computer software company was "well placed" to win the Singapore contract.

He said it would be for a more sophisticated system than that ordered by Malaysia, combining teletext, broadcast with television signals like Oracle and Ceefax in Britain, with videotext, transmitted over the telephone network like Prestel.

GEC will supply Malaysia with a complete "turnkey" videotext system running on its 4000 series computers with British Telecom's Prestel software. Staff from Jabatan Telekom Malaysia, the national telecommunications authority, will train to operate the service at GEC Computers' headquarters in Borehamwood, Hertfordshire.

Witron, a fast-growing Californian electronics company, is to establish its European research and development centre on the Melbourn Science Park near Cambridge, with the help of an innovation grant from the Department of Industry.

Initially, the centre will develop new microwave and radio-frequency test systems for the European market.

Why BankAmerica is buying troubled Washington bank

Seafirst discloses huge losses as takeover bid is announced

San Francisco - The world's biggest international bank, BankAmerica Corporation, has made an agreed \$400m (£260m) takeover bid for Seafirst Corporation.

On balance the deal is a good one for BankAmerica, according to Mr Lawrence Cohn, senior banking analyst at Dean Witter Reynolds. BankAmerica is fully protected against future loan losses and Washington state, where Seafirst operates, is a market that has generated pretty good growth in the past.

The agreement would make Seafirst and its principal unit, Seattle-First National Bank, an independent subsidiary of the BankAmerica Corporation.

The merger, valued at \$15.40 a share in an equal combination of cash and non-voting preferred stock, would give BankAmerica its first banking operations in the United States outside its home state of California.

BankAmerica, though the world's biggest international bank, is the second-largest bank holding company, after Citicorp, in the United States, and had \$122,200m in assets at the close of 1982.

The Seafirst takeover will be the largest acquisition of a bank holding company by an out-of-state bank holding company - if it is approved by the Federal Reserve Board, the controller of the currency, shareholders of Seafirst (where a vote is expected within 60 days) and Washington State Senate.

A Senate Bill would permit investments by out-of-state financial institutions in more than 5 per cent of the equity of bank holding companies based in the state. The Bill is opposed by some of the state's other banking companies. The Senate was holding its last scheduled meeting of the present legislative session on Sunday.

Under the BankAmerica offer, Seafirst shareholders would receive \$7.70 in cash and three-tenths of a new issue of non-voting BankAmerica preferred shares, redeemable in 1990 at \$25 each. The value is about \$15.40 a share.

Trading in Seafirst's stock was halted on Thursday on the New York stock exchange at \$14.25. The shares traded earlier that day at a low of \$12.625 and a high of \$13.75.

Mr Cohn said that the Seafirst shareholders were lucky to have the BankAmerica offer. He said that without a clear agreement to shore up Seafirst's eroding capital base, large depositors at Seattle-First might have rushed to withdraw savings from the bank after Seafirst's disclosure of its huge first-quarter loss.

BankAmerica, in addition to pledging \$250m in exchange for Seafirst's 16.2 million shares outstanding, also agreed to prop up Seattle-First with \$150m in fresh capital once the merger is completed.

That is critical for Seafirst. Its first-quarter loss of \$133m - nearly triple the amount forecast by analysts - came after a loss of \$91.3m last year, and pushed its capital to \$323m, or 3.4 per cent of its \$9,600m assets. Bank regulators vary in the level of equity they tolerate for banks, but a figure below 5 per cent is considered precarious.

As the rescue plan was announced, Seafirst disclosed losses of \$133m for the first quarter of 1983.

The group had intensified its search for a merger partner after reporting a 1982 net loss of \$93.1m.

Seafirst attributed most of its troubles to the \$1,000m it had lent to the energy sector. But Mr Samuel Armstrong, BankAmerica president, said that he was confident Seafirst's problems were containable.

BankAmerica will inject \$150m of capital into Seafirst in addition to the \$400m it is paying in cash and stock.

Mr Dudley came to Seafirst as chairman and chief executive on January 3 replacing Mr William Jenkins, who took early retirement. The vice-chairman Mr Joseph Curtis, and the president, Richard G. Jachninski, also retired early.

Mr Curtis said that the Anderson study "was the first time I had something credible. And it's not to say that there will be no more problems in the energy field. There could be."

If there are, it will be Seafirst's shareholders, not BankAmerica, who will absorb the losses. Bank America provided itself with a seven-year cushion by requiring Seafirst stockholders to absorb future losses that may arise from the existing loan portfolio.

However, Seafirst was in no danger of failing, Mr Richard P. Cooley, its chairman and chief executive, said after its group's annual meeting on Thursday. Banks around the country had provided it with a \$1,500m line of credit to strengthen its liquidity base in case of a run on deposits.

BankAmerica, according to Mr Cohn, most likely forced Seafirst to write off a larger portion of its potential loan losses before the acquisition, a step that resulted in the \$133m first-quarter loss.

However, Mr Cooley said on Sunday, that he would have never done that. The loss was derived from an analysis by

energy specialists from Arthur Andersen & Company, the accountants. The specialists looked at all the loans and gave Seafirst the most likely estimate if oil did not go below \$25 a barrel, he said. He noted that Seafirst had been active in energy-lending only in the last two years.

The Bank's energy-loan portfolio rose at the end of 1982 to \$1,200m at the end of 1982. This, according to Mr Cohn, was uncontrolled growth and the bank just did not know what it was doing.

Seafirst's troubles centre on defaults on its energy-related loans. It has acquired \$400m in loans from the Penn Square Bank of Oklahoma City, which collapsed last July.

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City rents rise 9pc

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

Office rents in the City are continuing to outpace inflation while rents in the remainder of the country have been at a virtual standstill, according to a survey today.

The survey published by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Institute of Actuaries shows that City rents climbed by 9 per cent in the 12 months to the end of March. In London's West end and Liverpool costs remained static while Newcastle had a 4 per cent growth.

Demand for City office space is concentrated on post-1974 air-conditioned buildings with rental values ranging from £16.50 to £31 a sq ft compared to £16 to £26.50 a sq ft 12 months ago.

Law Report April 26 1983: Queen's Bench Division

Police parade did not qualify for overtime payments

Cowan and Another v Thames Valley Police Authority and Another

Before Mr Justice Forbes

[Judgment delivered April 21]

Police constables were not entitled to be remunerated in respect of 15-minute periods which they were required to serve before performing a continuous tour of eight hours duty. Mr Justice Forbes held in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing their claim for declarations.

Paragraph 57 of the Standing Orders of the Thames Valley Police Force provided:

"A constable performing a continuous tour of eight hours duty will parade fifteen minutes before the time designated as the commencement of the tour."

Regulation 24(2) of the Police Regulations (SI 1971 No 156) provided: "The normal daily period of duty... shall be eight hours and, in addition, any time occupied in reporting to the appointed place for duty before a tour of duty begins."

Regulation 25 provided: "(1) Where a member of a police force to whom regulation 24 applies, remains on duty after his tour of duty ends or is recalled to duty between two tours of duty, he shall be granted... in respect of each unit of time during which he remains on duty after his tour of duty ends or after being so recalled... an equal period of time off..."

"(2) In respect of the overtime during any week... the member shall be granted for each unit of overtime worked... an allowance of a twenty-fourth of a day's pay..."

Mr David Eady, QC, for the police constables, Mr Keith Simpson for the police authority.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that it was the practice of some police forces to require constables to come on duty 10 to 15 minutes before a tour of eight hours duty.

The purpose of requiring such attendance was so that the constables could be inspected, given their duties, told of incidents which had occurred on their beat and of their period of refreshment. That ensured operational efficiency and equipped the constables properly for their tour of duty.

The key phrase in regulation 24(2) was "the time designated as the commencement of the tour of duty".

The two police constables seeking the declaration had come for duty for the extra 15 minutes before the practice ceased and were seeking a declaration that they should be remunerated.

The key phrase in regulation 24(2) was "the time designated as the commencement of the tour of duty".

The evidence was that what was generally understood by reporting

was the process which included briefing and inspection of constables. Reporting when used in regulation 24(2) was used in the special meaning in police practice to make certain that a constable could properly start his tour of duty.

Regulation 25 provided that a constable was compensated for overtime and related to complete units of a quarter hour. If a constable was required to parade for 20 minutes but only five minutes was spent on reporting, then that would result in one period of overtime.

If he was required to parade for 15 minutes, then the time spent after five minutes' reporting did not amount to a period of overtime.

A constable required to parade a quarter of an hour before a tour of duty began was recalled to duty between two tours of duty. The phrase used in regulation 24(2) referred to the time occupied in ensuring that a constable was fit to start on a tour of duty.

The normal period of duty was eight hours and the time taken for such processes that ensured that a constable was ready for a tour of duty.

The normal period of duty was not eight and a quarter hours since neither plaintiff could show that he completed overtime by working a complete quarter hour. Accordingly the plaintiffs' claim for declarations failed.

The evidence was that what was generally understood by reporting

Divisional Court

Appeal procedure not exhausted

Regina v Battle Justices, Ex parte Shepherd and Another

Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Mann

[Judgment delivered April 21]

Where under section 108 of the Magistrates' Court Act 1980 and section 9(2) and (4) of the Courts Act 1971, a statutory framework existed for the hearing of appeals against sentence from the magistrates courts to the crown court, but instead an applicant chose to make an application to the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, without exhausting that existing statutory framework, then it was difficult to conceive of circumstances in which it would be proper for the court to exercise its discretion to entertain such an application.

The Divisional Court so stated, refusing application by Mrs D. J. Shepherd and Miss D. J. Shepherd to quash a compensation order made by the Battle Justices on December 6, 1982.

Mr Roger Bartlett for the applicants and Richard Carr for the respondents.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that the applicants, who were aged 19 and 17, had come before the justices on July 7, 1982,

and had pleaded guilty to a number of burglaries of private dwelling houses.

The justices had deferred sentence until December 6, 1982, when, having taken account of the applicants' conduct during the case before them, they imposed sentences of two years' probation and 60 hours community service on each of them.

In addition, a compensation order of £214.10 was imposed on each applicant, to be paid at a rate of £1 per week. It would take them about four years to pay off the whole amount.

The applicants appealed to the crown court but when the judge mentioned that he had power to review the whole sentence, not just the compensation order, was in the circumstances, harsh and oppressive. But in both those cases the existing procedure had been exhausted.

It was difficult to conceive of circumstances where it would be proper for the court to exercise its discretion to entertain such an application where, as in the present case, the matter could only be properly dealt with within the statutory framework available, and accordingly his Lordship did not think it right to entertain the application.

What troubled his Lordship was the fact that there already existed a statutory framework for appeals against sentence from the magistrates' courts. That was provided by section 108 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, and by section 9

(2) and (4) of the Courts Act 1971, which his Lordship read.

Had the appeal proceeded in the crown court, the court would have had power fully to review the whole matter, with all the material in the case before it. What Mr Bartlett sought to persuade their Lordships was that they could pick out one matter and concentrate on that only.

There was no question of the justices having no jurisdiction of their being in breach of natural justice. All he said was that on the principles set out in *R v St Albans Crown Court, Ex parte Cinnamond* (1981) 1 QB 480.

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Mr Justice Mann agreed. Solicitors: Ferring & Co. Hastings; Mr Logan A. Edgar, Hastings.

Court must hear issues relevant to sentence

Regina v Williams

Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Mann

[Judgment delivered April 25]

Where on an appeal against sentence to the crown court there was a dispute as to facts which were relevant to sentence, the court was not entitled to make findings on such issues without first hearing either evidence or submissions of counsel thereon.

Lord Justice Robert Goff, sitting with Mr Justice Mann in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, so held in allowing an appeal by way of case stated against Mr Derek Williams, of Swinton, and quashing a sentence of six months' imprisonment imposed by Judge Taylor in Manchester Crown Court in an appeal against a sentence of three months' imprisonment imposed by Eccles Justices on the appellant for unlawfully inflicting grievous bodily harm contrary to section 20 of the Offences against the Person Act 1861.

Mr Barrie Searle, who did not appear below, for Mr Williams; Mr John R. Beaumont for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that the appellant had been found guilty of inflicting grievous bodily harm upon a man with whom he had had a homosexual relationship for five years. He had pushed him down some stone steps outside his council flat, breaking a bone in his neck.

The justices had imposed a sentence of three months' imprisonment. The appellant appealed against his sentence to the crown court, and at the hearing the prosecution opened with evidence of oral admissions made by the appellant to the police that he had assaulted the victim in a similar manner on previous occasions.

The judge asked the appellant's counsel if she wished the issue to be tried. She replied that she did not, but stated that the appellant denied that such incidents had occurred.

The judge found that they had occurred, and dismissed the appeal, increasing the sentence to six months' imprisonment.

The decision as to whether there should or should not be a trial upon an issue was entirely a matter for the court and was not something which

required counsel's consent. Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, in *R v Newson* (1983) Crim L R 198 had laid down the course to be followed by a judge in the crown court where facts relevant to sentence were in dispute. The principle extended to appeals to the crown court.

None of those courses had been adopted in this case. The judge had neither heard evidence, nor had he entertained the submissions of counsel. In the absence of one of those alternatives the judge was not entitled to proceed to sentence. Accordingly the conviction would be quashed.

Solicitors: Kirk Jackson & Co. Eccles; Mr D. S. Gandy, Manchester.

Smoking drugs implies possession

Cheshire Chief Constable v Hunt and Others

Where defendants had on their own admission smoked cannabis which belonged to another person who had admitted ownership thereof, they were guilty of possession of cannabis for the purposes of a conviction under section 5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, notwithstanding that the information alleged possession of an unspecified amount.

Lord Justice Robert Goff, sitting in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court on April 25 with Mr Justice Mann, so stated in allowing an appeal by the prosecutor from a decision of the Warrington Justices dismissing an information preferred against the respondents alleging possession of a quantity of cannabis resin contrary to section 5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

Test of plying for hire

Yakha v Tee

Where a vehicle displayed a roof sign giving the telephone number of the place from which the vehicle could be hired, the vehicle did not ply for hire (a) and (b) of the Transport Act 1980, the Queen's Bench Divisional Court held on an appeal by way of case stated from the Reading Justices. The court held on April 22 that one should apply a common sense test.

MR JUSTICE MANN, with whom Lord Justice Goff agreed,

said that following Lord Parker, Lord Chief Justice, in *Breame v Anderson* (1971) RTR 31: "One just looks at the vehicle with the sign on it and asks as a matter of common sense does it suggest that the vehicle is immediately for hire?"

His Lordship observed that section 64 did not prohibit all roof signs. If it had Parliament's intention to do so it would have so legislated. He concluded that the justices' finding was incorrect, and the case was remitted with a direction to accept.

(continued from page 33)

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1, 437-2811, Beverly Hills. It's my life (115 mins, 200 met) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

ACADEMY 2, 437-8122, Edmondo Dr. Grease (115 mins, 1978) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

ACADEMY 3, 437-8818, The Courtyards of Hollywood. Grease (115 mins, 1978) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

CANDLER PLAZA, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

CINEMA 6, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 2, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 3, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 4, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 5, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 6, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 7, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 8, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

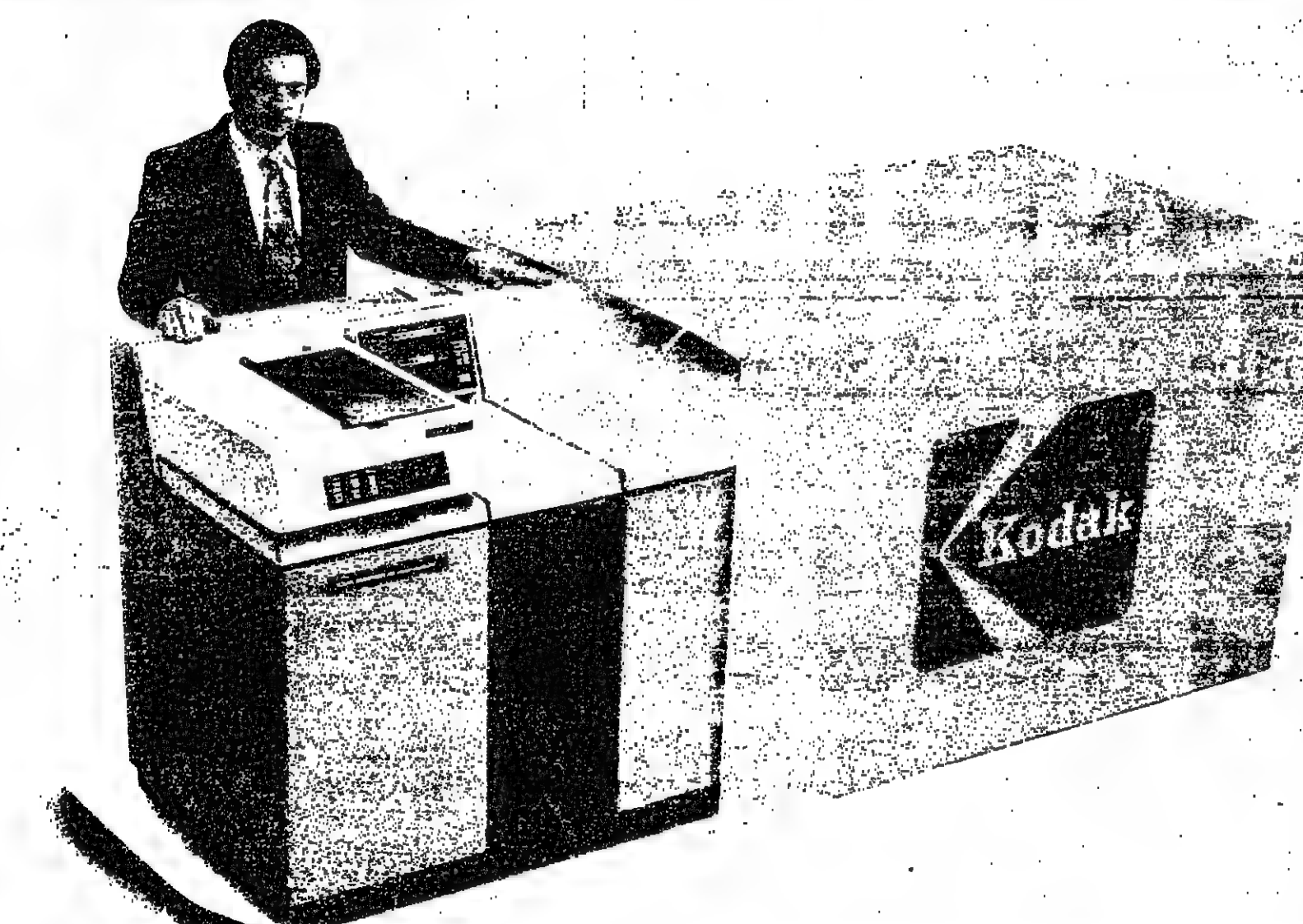
FLAZA 9, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 10, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 11, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 12, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)

FLAZA 13, 488-2443, 6000 Candler. The Untouchables (115 mins, 1960) Sun & Sat. 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. (No Showings)



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Frank Brown, who wrote recently that at the Palace of Westminster the on-line information system is now a way of life, describes MPs' reactions to information technology

Will the Iron Lady be remembered as the IT Lady?

Information technology techniques such as word processing and information storage/retrieval lighten and speed the routine work of gathering information and preparing documents. Thus users can concentrate more on the subject matter, make better decisions, and be more productive generally.

One institution where these techniques have made this readily apparent, but where much greater use could be made of them, is Parliament.

The amount of work done there is not only considerable but is increasing rapidly. In the parliamentary session 1979-80, for example, the House of Commons Library indexed some 80,000 items from the mass of publications produced as a result of the business done in both Houses. In the 1981-82 session, the number exceeded 100,000.

The growth will continue, partly because indexing has been extended to include certain European Parliamentary documents, but mainly because work at Westminster is also on the increase.

Some idea of how much more legislative work is being done at Westminster was given in the first report of the House of Commons' Liaison Committee

for the current session, published last December.

The report revealed that in the previous three years in which the House had sat, 104 weeks = 14 committees and their three sub-committees had between them held 1,701 formal meetings and issued 172 substantive reports and 37 secondary reports. These figures do not include the additional work done before committee meetings in informal meetings, and in the drafting of reports.

The Liaison Committee then compared these figures with the work done by the House of Commons in previous Parliaments. This showed that the average number of formal meetings per committee during the 1981-82 session was almost three times greater than in 1969-70 (31 compared with 11). Committee meetings in 1981-82, moreover, attracted a higher average attendance: 73 per cent compared with just 64 per cent in 1969-70.

The average number of major reports issued per committee was also much higher: 3.8 in 1981-82, compared with only 0.5 in 1969-70. This increase in output, however, can be partially attributed to the use of word processing systems for report production in recent years.

From these facts, the Liaison Committee concluded that this increased activity has "considerably extended the range of the House's activity, strengthened its position relative to that of the Government, and deepened the quality of its debates."

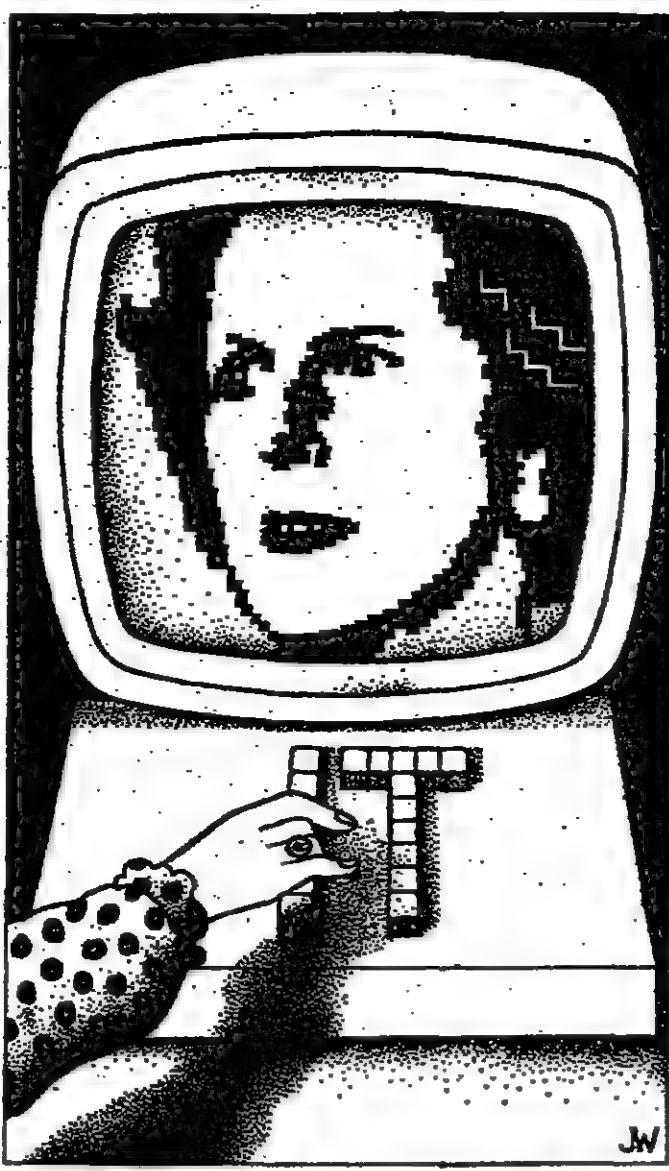
The increase in parliamentary work has made — and continues to make — greater demands on MPs in terms of workload. It is also clear that their workload could be greatly eased if they had IT aids such as word processors or personal computers.

The problem of providing such aids, however, is complex and has been the subject of much discussion for some years. First, there is the question of acquiring MPs with what word processors and personal computers can do.

This is being tackled by the House of Commons computer development officer, Richard Morgan, who has instituted a series of familiarization courses on microsystems and related aspects of IT for members of both Houses.

Morgan, incidentally, has conducted some 18 feasibility studies into proposed applications of IT in Parliament, since he became Computer Development Officer at the

Continued on page 27



Quote from one MP: "Mrs Thatcher could well be remembered as the IT Lady."

The week: Clive Cookson

The mouse that crept out of Hanover

As someone with an allergy to large trade shows, I knew in advance that my first visit to the biggest of them all, the Hanover Fair, was going to be a nightmare.

It hit my lowest expectations, despite the charm and hospitality of my hosts, Commodore, who flew me (with two other journalists and two dealers) to Germany and back in the executive jet that Jack Tramiel, the company president, had brought over from the United States. (Happily, Mr Tramiel owns a British Aerospace 125 — characteristically bought very cheaply because the previous owner had done up its interior in such hideous decor that no one else wanted it.)

Hanover was a horror for all the obvious reasons. It was far too big and crowded to see anything worthwhile in the few hours available, and all the really exciting new computers were besieged by bulky visitors who made it impossible to get a decent demonstration.

The fair was sad too from the nationalistic point of view. For the British presence was lamentably weak in comparison with the other major European countries. Japan and the United States, ICL had the only UK stand in the same league as the international competition; it had nothing really new to reveal this year but it did put on a creditable show of its existing office computers.

A good feature of ICL's exhibition was a demonstration of "open systems intercon-

ion" — a cable linking its products to other manufacturers' computers. There was even a little BBC Micro from Acorn on the ICL stand.

The total number of UK exhibitors in the computer and office automation section of the Hanover Fair — 39 — compared well with other countries; for example France mustered 30 and Japan 33. But the uninspired British stands failed to make an impact proportional to their numbers, while the Japanese were the stars of the show.

The new goodie displayed on my hosts' stand was Commodore 64, with either a 5-inch colour screen (£995) or in black-and-white, (£550). But it may not be available in Britain before the end of this year, at least in the colour version.

The most innovative system on the Commodore stand was locked away in an upstairs room for viewing by trusted dealers but unfortunately not by the press or public. It is Commodore's answer to the Lisa workstation which Apple launched with such successful publicity in January and which was one of the greatest crowd-pullers at Hanover.

Commodore's workstation will have integrated user-friendly software and a pointer operated by a desktop "mouse" like Lisa and the Xerox Star workstation. But, according to Jack Tramiel, his business machine will be in the \$2,000 to \$3,000 price range rather than the \$10,000 that Apple plans to charge for Lisa, and Commo-

dore will also produce a home computer with similar features for under \$1,000.

Apple's low-cost version of Lisa, called Macintosh, has not yet been unveiled but it is likely to cost about \$2,000. However, Apple too is reported to be working on a cheaper home computer of the same type — so 1984 should see the most spectacular battle so far in the micro market.

Tramiel was in an expansive mood at Hanover, fuelled by the astonishing surge in demand which Commodore has experienced over the past few months. The company has sold a million micros in the first four months of 1983, he said — as many as in the whole previous history of Commodore. Turnover and profits this year should be at least twice last year's figures.

Looking further into the future, Tramiel spoke excitedly of the major research and development effort that Commodore is now making in speech synthesis and recognition. A team is working in Dallas under Dr Richard Wiggins, a voice technologist recently recruited from Texas Instruments.

Within two years, Tramiel says, most Commodore computers will incorporate speech technology. One product which the company has in mind for the youth market is a conversational "personal robot like you have seen in Star Wars".

The author is Technology Correspondent.

Image processing

The missile with a computer map

The general field of computer processing of pictures is called image processing and is one of the more advanced areas of artificial intelligence. Computers process pictures for one of two reasons — either to produce a better image for human analysis or to come to an automatic decision about some object in the picture.

Applications for image processing cover a wide and expanding range — covering, for example, medicine, digital TV systems, astronomy, industrial robotic assembly machines, checking of agricultural produce, reading machines for the blind, and satellite imagery analysis.

The economics of the micro-electronic revolution have started to move 15 years of software development out of the laboratory and into the real world.

The Falklands conflict underlined the power of modern missiles but in practice the homing systems of missiles currently in service are very primitive compared with those under development. New missiles will use image processing to recognize the shapes of buildings, tanks or ships. Because the target is much cheaper than the missile, and only one missile is needed for destruction, slow-moving or stationary objects will become increasingly vulnerable to missiles with image processing.

A generalization is that "intelligent weapons" are shifting towards the defending side, enabling even a small army to paralyse the movement of a larger army as it attacks.

The cruise missile steers itself to the target using a computer map of its route, correcting itself if it drifts off course. The impact accuracy of a few yards means that bridges, military headquarters, equipment stores, road junctions and railway yards can be destroyed by non-nuclear cruise weapons. The non-nuclear importance of cruise missiles is likely to be much greater than that of the nuclear version, because it alters the balance of East-West forces.

Satellite imagery, such as Landsat pictures, is usually transmitted from the satellite to Earth as a stream of numbers and the pictures are viewed and

processed on computer systems. Successful users have included meteorologists for cloud analysis and prediction of weather and crop growth.

All the traditional uses of charts are helped by satellite images, which can even make maps through the perpetual cloud of the tropical jungle. Tell-tale characteristics in any of the wavebands can be enhanced by the computer to aid the search for water, minerals or geological features.

Medicine is a prime application area for image processing. Millions of X-ray plates, cell tests, serial sections and intravital images are routinely examined in hospitals every year. Studies have shown that humans are very poor at looking at such a succession of pictures, scoring after only a few minutes. Image processing was expected to be able to automatically detect possible problems on images and point these out to the doctor for confirmation.

However, practical applications in this field have been disappointing. One reason may be that relations between image processing scientists and the medical profession are often awkward. The medical profession, like many other groups, is uneasy at the prospect of seeing its ancient skills aided, or even replaced, by machines.

Interestingly, the body scanner does not generate a picture itself, but only a series of numbers representing how the human body absorbs X-rays. A computer produces the best imaginary picture, which would fit the original data. This picture therefore has no existence without the computer and cannot be viewed without image processing. Perhaps, as a consequence, this has been the image processing system best accepted in medicine.

One UK firm (Microconsultants) has sold its products widely, especially in the high-thrust US market and there are many thriving "small" firms turning out excellent, if rather expensive, products. Whether they will come when faced with a more flexible, cheap, mass-produced product is another matter.

Dr Richard Stevens
The author is an image processing scientist.

Next: Industrial applications

Letters

A matter of discipline

From Wendy Furey, Brookmead, Hildenborough, Kent.

I was interested to read Derek Friend's letter in *Computer Horizons* as I am taking O-level computing studies as a private candidate this June.

I have a BBC micro and a husband who is a computer expert, so I wrote to London University Examination Board and asked if I could enter privately for their O-level syllabus which is in its third year. Although the syllabus states that private candidates will not be accepted, they did so and referred me to the local polytechnic, which agreed to enter me with their candidates, on condition I had facilities to do the course work.

This part of the syllabus carries 30 per cent of the total marks, but it is marked by the Board, not by the Centre.

The cost was £12.50, comprising registration fee, subject

fee and centre fee, plus the cost of text books and previous exam papers.

The main problem is one of self-discipline and my not having taken an examination for 20 years! However if all goes well next September I will be looking for a part-time, home-micro-based job. Any offers?

From Alex Woodfield (aged 15), The Elms, 3 Sudbury Road, Haldenham, Essex CO9 2BA.

Although agreeing wholeheartedly with Lesley Wells's information that males in computing substantially outnumber females of the other gender, I am forced to comment that in my grammar school, although there is a thriving computer club, a course in computer science is not offered, nor required. Yet in the corresponding grammar school for girls in our area computer studies is an O-level option and, one, I believe, well used.

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Ivan Berg: boxed tapes of GCE revision for maths, chemistry, English and biology

How Mr Berg became a mastermind

At first glance there is little similarity between a spoken word cassette of "One hour with Edgar Allen Poe" and a micro computer program. "Know your own personality" by Prof Eysenck and Dr Wilson of London University.

The link between the two is software publisher Ivan Berg, who, with a background of journalism, TV scriptwriting and publishing audio tapes, has become a leading supplier of educational and home entertainment software.

Mr Berg's interest in computers began at Christmas 1981 when he bought his son a VIC 20 home computer, and discovered that apart from the ubiquitous invader games, there was a dearth of programs available.

With the aid of the instruction manual, he set about exploring BASIC and discovered that it was not dissimilar to learning a new language: soon he had mastered it and started writing his own programs.

Realizing that nobody was filling his perceived gap in the market, he approached Commodore with his ideas for new "non-games" software, and with their help, set up a research team to develop them.

The first program to evolve was "Mastermind", based on the BBC favourite. It uses the computer's compatible tape

deck to the full, enabling a program of about 60k to be loaded in small sections into a 16k machine.

By autumn 1982 he had published 14 quiz, educational, and home utility programs, and is now firmly established with his boxed tapes of GCE revision for such subjects as maths, chemistry, English and biology.

Using the knowledge he acquired while selling tapes, he has just concluded a deal to distribute educational software through conventional record and tape outlets; the record industry, with its dwindling sales, was very receptive and display racks should be finding their way into High Street record stores within the month.

Mr Berg's latest titles include teach and test tapes for children aged four to eight, written in association with Hodder and Stoughton, and, using the power of the new Commodore 64, a program written jointly with astronomer Patrick Moore. He will display any given sky on the screen, bringing a planetarium to the living room.

He has just concluded deals with Acorn, makers of the BBC micro, and Texas Instruments, for a radically new approach to education, with programs being sold under the collective title of "Computer Tutor".

Geoffrey Ellis

A new line in software at the town hall



Everyone in for the revolution

The main problem for the computerized council of Trafford is that everyone wants a terminal in the office to look at his own data. It is an indication of the success of the council's computer resources. He found there were difficulties in a number of areas.

In March 1978, George Laws, acting treasurer, was given overall responsibility for the council's computer resources. He found there were difficulties in a number of areas. On the personnel side, there were systems development staff on the establishment but, because their grades were too low, it was difficult to recruit suitable workers.

Trafford had tried training programmers in-house but found that, largely because of better salaries in industry, they left as soon as they were of any real value. This problem is one that all sections of the computer industry have to face, though it is not always directly related to pay. Lack of job satisfaction resulting from being bogged down with boring maintenance work was a big factor, and often overlooked.

Senior staff were also spending too much time checking the work of trainees and with maintenance. Like most of the computer industry, 70 per cent of staff time was spent on maintaining existing systems while only 30 per cent was spent on developing new applications.

Because of the lack of pace and vitality in development, extra hardware was needed to maintain the existing service. As in the private sector, problems had been temporarily solved by cobbling up many proprietary software packages.

This put Trafford at the crossroads in computing terms. Councillors were told by Mr Laws they had two options: either to stand still with current staffing levels, hardware and existing systems or to enter into a commitment to full computer development.

When the real issues were presented to the councillors, a positive response was received and a commitment to develop the computer services at the borough to its fullest potential was agreed.

On energy management alone, the system has saved £750,000 a year out of a budget of £2,500,000. Mr Laws estimates his department would have to double in size if it were not for the systems so far developed. This would cost an extra £12m a year.

The only way to beat the maintenance backlog was to buy in fourth generation software tools that would develop more efficient systems more quickly and to turn the computer from being a mere high speed adding machine into a management information system. The council has a 6 megabyte IBM 3031 at present and is upgrading to an IBM 3083E under MVS.

First, on the staffing side, there was an urgent need to get and keep better quality people. While at first glance this could be seen as pushing up labour costs, it was not so in practice. Higher calibre staff produce more lines of code more quickly so the employer needs fewer or, in Trafford's case, no extra staff.

In 1974 Trafford employed 27 people in its DP department. Again this was on a par with many private sector installations of about the same size. It now employs 21. This means fewer people are concerned with data input and more with teleprocessing work. The staff costs in 1974 were £187,000. In 1982 they had only risen about £1,000 to £188,000. The most

important change was dropping the training scheme. This means that all staff are producers and not supervisors.

Second, the council needed a strategy and Mr Laws had a vision whereby the information necessary to enable management and workers to function efficiently would be readily available for them without having to know anything about computers and any more effort than merely asking for it. In 1978, Mr Laws found the nearest anyone could get to this was to develop personal DP facilities on as simple a basis as possible using video terminals.

Third, Mr Laws decided Trafford needed a viable database for storing information that could be used by more than one council department. There were two main reasons for this. One was that without the information being held on the computer, it would not be possible for many access points to obtain it and the other was Mr Laws's conviction that this was a major route to cutting down routine maintenance.

A shortlist of five products was drawn up. These were: Adabas, DL/I, IDMS, Rami II and Total. Rami II was picked because Mr Laws found it had the shortest learning curve and hence would be the easiest to use as well as tying up the least expertise.

More than 20 major applications have been completed since Rami II was installed in April, 1979.

The aim of the system was to make the best use of energy consumption by eliminating waste. This would then liberate resources for more effective provision of community needs.

It also identifies managerial responsibility and consumption targets. Every year, the 10 buildings with the highest energy costs per square metre and cost/consumption per occupant are easily identified and Trafford's fuel efficiency engineer then concentrates on improving them to bring down costs. It also enables the council to plan capital schemes and architects' briefs for all projects far more coherently. It covers mains, gas and electricity, oil, water, calor gas, coal and telephones. The council can also examine more closely monthly accounts from suppliers.

The system also identified the following errors: ● The energy bills of a building administered by another local authority were being paid for by Trafford;

● Trafford was being overcharged 100,000 service units per quarter over a seven year period on a block of flats;

● The electricity bills for a police communications signal booster were being debited to Trafford;

Computer manager at Trafford is Bill Hough who pioneered the use of UFO. This is a software tool supplied by Systems Resources at Coventry that enables teleprocessing jobs to be written more quickly compared with IBM's own product, Cics. Another problem with Cics is that there are very few staff in the industry who know how to use it and consequently they attract very high salaries.

Hough said: "I have yet to hear a valid reason for not using UFO. I think it is the concept of the way we work that has changed things at Trafford. It was brought in by Mr Laws to get applications moving and what has counted is the attitude of PD staffs to getting the best out of the tools available."

Chris Youett

The Xerox Marathon produced a new range of copiers every office should find room for

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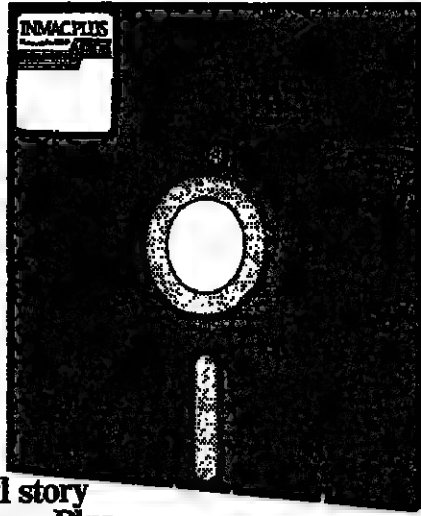
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COMPUTER HORIZONS



Any old computers for sale?

It looks like the usual Saturday jumble sale battle; in fact, this was the one-day bring-and-buy sale at the London Festival of Computing, writes Geoffrey Ellis. Goods

for sale included old printed circuit boards, chips, keyboards, instruction books for old machines — even a vintage teleprinter. The enthusiasm of this year's visitors has

ensured a three-day booking in April next year of the Central Hall, Westminster. The year about £6,000 was raised for the Association of London Computer Clubs.

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Just how big a difference is there between Digital and other personal computer manufacturers?



هكذا من لاصول

One final try for captain Johnson

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Steve Johnson, the Leicester captain and former England flanker, will play his last game for the club in the John Player Cup final against Bristol at Twickenham on Saturday. Johnson, aged 33, has decided to retire, which will give his club one more reason to do well in their last match of the season. Leicester can claim their thirty-fourth win, which would top their previous highest total, and if they scored 10 points they would score 1,000 for the first time. A fourth cup win seems almost incidental.

It was a cosmopolitan gathering at the annual pre-final encounter at Twickenham's Rose Room yesterday. Leicester sent a large delegation, primarily composed of their promising young forwards. Bristol had Knibbs their 18-year-old centre to represent the players and a clutch of officials; the match sponsors had a large (but studied) tiger and, with the assistance of Chippendale Circus, a small (but five) tiger cub and a baby chimpanzee. The Rugby Football Union president and other officers were also in attendance, but were happy to play second fiddle to the rest of the band.

Bristol, as they have done all season after being drawn away in every round, will travel on Friday and stay overnight at Maidenhead. It has, they say, become a habit: an embellishment has been finding a horse racing connection after calling at a stables en route to West Hartlepool and training at Warwick racecourse before their semi-final with Coventry. They are taking into possibilities at Ascot or Epsom this week.

They will be happy to go into the final as underdogs.

In reaching the final they have scored 16 tries, their opponents 19. Both clubs set out last night, but Bristol must wait to see if Duggan, their full-back, has recovered from fluid on the knee. Leicester are happier with the condition of Gillingham (twisted ankle) and Barwell (groin strain), than with Dodge and Smith, the hamstring victims. Final decisions can be left until final training on Thursday.

Swansea make a Swift switch

Tony Swift, the English wing, plays in the Welsh Cup final against Pontypool in Saturday's Welsh Cup Final in Cardiff. He replaces David Richards, the Wales Centre and club captain.

Mark Davies, the flank forward take over the captaincy. Paul Callaghan, aged 21, from Gwent, is in his first season for Swansea, replacing Swift on the right wing.



Barbarian style: Gerber (left) and Tobias, who have demonstrated that the art of centre three-quarter play is far from dead

Only a handful of teams now committed to 15-man rugby

Back play decline caused by coach's changed role

The inspired inclusion of the two South African three-quarter, Danie Gerber and Errol Tobias, for the Barbarians against Scotland, Cardiff and Swansea demonstrated at least in the first two games, that the art of centre play is far from dead.

Both Springboks were fortunate that, in all their matches, attack was the watchword of both sides. Consequently, their games were more relaxed and exciting, even if sometimes the basic skills, particularly tackling, were not always in the top drawer. This led to Gerber and Tobias being afforded more space to manoeuvre than they would have enjoyed had they been playing in an international.

Much consternation was expressed after this season's international matches, and the poverty of the back play. It was only in January that England were reputed to have the best three-quarter line for the five nations championship. Yet they managed to score only one try. I believe that the major cause of the decline in three-quarter play is a gradual change over the past five years in the role of the club coach. The cumbersome merit-table procedures, which lead to qualification for

the John Player Cup, have meant that coaches have been more absorbed in organizing their sides to win particular games than in concentrating on the basic skills of forwards and three-quarter alike. There is only a handful of sides currently committed to a 15-man approach, and of these Leicester, Bristol and Bath head the list.

Budge Rogers, chairman of the England selectors, has said of Leicester: "Few clubs have learned from their success. A couple of quick, flat passes enable Hare to give his wingers, Barwell and Evans, ample room to move."

In the early 1970s, attacking rugby started with the full back entering the line to make an extra man. This is now being countered to some extent by the opposition three-quarter adopting a "drift defence". Instead of marking man for man, the opposition's stand off shuffles across to take the first centre. In turn, the first centre takes the second centre, and so on, with the result that the full back no longer finds he has been able to make that crucial overlap.

Defences adopting the drift method have been vulnerable to attack around their stand-off. In order to overcome that particular problem, back row forwards

Douglas ranked seventh in world

By a Special Correspondent

Desmond Douglas has been elevated to No. 7 in his highest ranking in the latest International Table Tennis Federation classification. The seedings for the world championships, which start in Tokyo on Thursday, have been taken directly from the list which means that the England No. 1 has his best chance of reaching the quarter-finals for the first time.

Four Chinese players, one Japanese - the former world champion, Seiji Ono - and one Swedish - the European champion, Mikael Appelgren - are now the only players above Douglas and of those he has usually been able to get the better of. He is above two other former world champions, Ivan Jonyer, of Hungary, and Stellan Bengtsson, of Sweden, and above no fewer than five former European champions. Douglas has always desired, occasionally deserved, the European title but never came closer to it than his semi-final defeat by Jonyer in Duisburg in 1978.

All this is reward for success with quicksilver reflexes, sometimes described as the quickest in the world. Douglas won the Lamberth and Butler invitation tournament for the second year in succession at Wembley in November, maintained his record as the leading player in the British League, defeated Gernot Broditsky, and finished second in the European Top Twelve event at Cleveland in February.

The Birmingham left-hander now has to make sure that there are no surprises in the final of the British League Cup on Sunday at the Britannia Leisure Centre, Shoreditch.

Kelly Girl International have had their name change to Capital City Sports and the Scottish Volleyball Association in time for the final. The South London side lost their sponsorship, after three years, at the end of last season, but continued to use the Kelly Girl name for most of this season.

Mike Warwick, the Spikers' manager, said: "We kept the name on basically because people know the name and associated it with the Spikers. We are still looking for a sponsor."

The Spikers, who finished second in the league behind Speedwell, came nearer than any other British club to being the first to win a trophy, going down 3-2 at Bath, and having match points in the fourth set.

With a full squad, and the knowledge that they have nothing to lose, they could stretch Speedwell's run going for the double, having established themselves as the best club side in Britain.

Britain are not sending a team to the Rome International Show from May 3 to 5. In a break from tradition the British Show Jumping team have decided that it will not be possible to send riders who have just completed the World Cup finals in Vienna or a less experienced team with little chance of winning the Nations Cup.

Arthur Brown, the British effort of the season will be in their own official Nations Cup meeting at Hickstead from May 27 to 30.

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Wadkins is back in Ryder Cup team after repeat victory

From John Ballantine, Carlisle

Lanny Wadkins just held off a fierce charge by Raymond Floyd to keep his Tournament of Champions title on Sunday and then spoke of how delighted he was to be in the Ryder Cup team again for the matches against Europe at the PGA headquarters in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida on October 14 to 16.

"It's going to be a lot of fun and I'm delighted to be back," said Wadkins, echoing the sentiments of most United States professionals who relish playing for their country rather than themselves in this most individualistic of sporting careers.

Wadkins, aged 33, a Virginian who started his golf career on a sports scholarship at Wake Forest University in North Carolina, also the alma mater of the young Arnold Palmer, had a distinguished amateur career which culminated in appearances in the Walker Cup matches of 1969 and 1971. After turning professional in 1971 he played in the Ryder Cup teams of 1977 and 1979, but missed the last encounter at Walton Heath in 1981.

The 70 points he gained as the winner have given him a large lead in the Cup points table: 374 to Floyd's 337. Tom Kite, Jay Haas, Craig Stadler, Gil Morgan and Bob Gilder also took certificates with Curtis Strange, Frank Ziegler and Calvin Peete among contenders. There are

10 more events in which players can acquire points, ending with the Western Open in Chicago on June 30 to July 3.

Wadkins won this title last year by three strokes. This time he suffered slightly in the home straight, dropping strokes at the sixteenth and seventeenth holes. That meant he needed a par four at the 432-yard eighteenth to avoid a typical late challenge with 69. Wadkins was equal to the occasion, driving straight and sure, pitching into the centre of the green and coaxing the ball into the hole with two putts.

His victory, which was the twelfth of his career, brought his prize-money this year to \$229,048 (\$48,000) and his career total to more than \$1.6m (\$98,000).

He has had a fine season, winning the Greensboro Open, the week before the Masters, in which he tied for eighth place. He was also second in Tucson and Los Angeles. He is the fifth player to win this title in successive years: the others were Gene Lister, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer and Tom Watson.

Nicklaus redeemed himself after his 77 in the third round with a 75 that halved him up to joint 18th place. He said he is feeling described by some optimists as the



Wadkins: out in front

new Nicklaus, dropped three strokes on the home nine to finish fourth.

LEADING SCOTLAND (US unless noted): 27: H. Wadkins, 37: 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

LEADING SCOTLAND (US unless noted): 27: H. Wadkins, 37: 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 73

SNOOKER

Chester's proposals may be rejected

BOXING: Alexis Arguello, of Nicaragua, stopped Claude Noel of Trinidad in the third round of a lightweight contest in Atlantic City. Noel retired because of hip injury.

Later Noel said he believed he had dislocated his hip in the second round. "I was hurt and I prefer to keep on living," he said. He was floored in the first round with a left hook to the head.

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Reagan is blamed for arms stalemate

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

A panel of prominent American specialists on arms control has concluded that the prospects for agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union in either of the negotiations taking place in Geneva are "bleak" unless the Reagan administration abandons its present approach of seeking big reductions in the Soviet nuclear arsenal.

In a report released yesterday by the Carnegie Endowment the panel attributes the stagnation in both the strategic arms reduction talks (Start) and the negotiations on medium-range missiles in Europe on the "sweeping" of the American proposals.

These proposals seek "major reductions... in those categories of weaponry where the Soviets have their largest investment and strategic advantage."

However, Mr William Hyland, the panel's chairman, conceded during a press conference that the recent American decision to set aside its "zero-zero" proposals for the total elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe, and instead seek an interim solution, may produce a serious Soviet response.

"My impression is that there is a lot of tough bargaining ahead, particularly on the Pershing," he said. "But I think the Russians are going to have to come up with a counter-proposal."

Last month President Reagan offered to cut back the planned deployment of 572 Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Europe if the Soviet Union agrees to reduce the number of warheads on its medium-range missiles to an equal number. Moscow rejected this new offer.

Among the panel's 30 members is retired General Brent Scowcroft who is also chairman of President Reagan's commission on strategic weapons. This commission has recommended the basing of 100 multi-warheaded intercontinental ballistic missiles in existing Minuteman silos pending the development of a new small mobile single warheaded missile. It also suggested that in future arms control agreements should be based on attaining an equal number of warheads rather than equal levels of missile launchers.



Hubbub at conference on Hitler diaries

Continued from page 1

diaries were forgeries: "For the moment we can accept the provisional conclusion that they are genuine," although there were many questions still to be asked.

A Stern spokesman said last night that if Lord Dacre wanted to publish the manuscripts he would certainly be allowed to do so.

Stern saw no reason to interrupt its preparations to publish the diaries because of Lord Dacre's reservations expressed at the press conference and doubts raised by other historians, another official said. "The conference has only served to confirm our judgment that the diaries are genuine," he said. "Both historians confirmed that they thought them genuine."

Professor Weinberg, who also spent three hours in the Zurich vault reading extracts from about 15 volumes, complained at the press conference that the handwriting analysis commissioned by Stern had worked only in pages taken from the separate volumes Hitler had kept on the Hess affair.

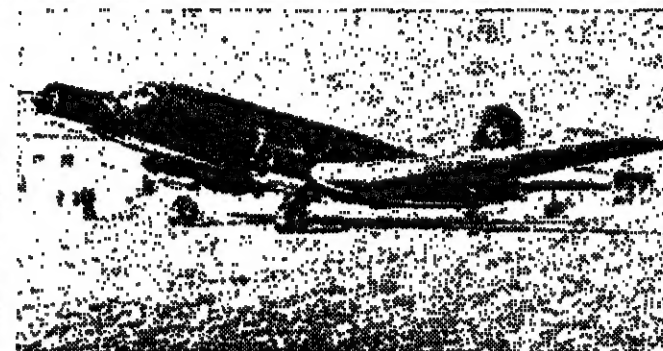
To establish absolute proof, he wanted similar analyses to be carried out on the main diary volumes as well as thorough

examination by German historians. Herr Peter Koch, Stern's Editor, said the paper submitted for chemical tests had been taken from two separate volumes - 1933 and 1941 - and more handwriting comparisons were now under way. Tests had already been carried out by Mr Ordway Hilton, the American handwriting expert who discovered the forgery of Howard Hughes' will and who stated categorically that the samples he saw were written by Hitler.

The press conference was interrupted by Mr David Irving, who made a long statement disputing the diaries' authenticity and producing other Hitler documents which he said did not tally with Stern's find. He said these had already been published elsewhere.

"You have your sources who supply you with forgeries, and Stern has its sources who supplied us with genuine documents," Herr Koch retorted. "What you hold in your hands are forgeries."

As a throng of cameramen and reporters pressed round Mr Irving, a fight broke out when Mr Irving tried to prevent Mr Irving giving a rival press conference in the same room. The hubbub lasted for some time.



Where it all began: Herr Gerd Heidemann (top), of "Stern", at the grave of the pilot who was flying the ill-fated Junkers (bottom) which crashed with the diaries on board.

Writing Mein Kampf was 'a struggle' for Hitler

By Richard Evans

An eminent British historian claimed last night that Hitler did not write *Mein Kampf* personally, but dictated his political and autobiographical testament to stenographers. Professor Donald Cameron Watt, who spent six years working on German government and military documents of the Hitler era, said he had collected very little material signed by the Führer after 1933.

"It was a devil of a job to get *Mein Kampf* out of Hitler. It was dictated in two chunks, the first while he was in jail when

he had nothing to do, and the second two years later, when as a result of some disturbances around his speeches he was forbidden to speak publicly for six months."

"His publisher dragged him back to a desk and again provided a stenographer who wrote down what he said."

Professor Cameron Watt, the Stevenson Professor of International History at the University of London, said his impression was that Hitler was not normally a man who put pen to paper. "It is very odd if he did write these diaries."

Poll debate off to an abusive start

Continued from page 1

They are talking about a £2.5m "war chest" for the campaign, most of the money coming from the trade unions. About £750,000 has already been gathered in.

Mr Johnny Wright, whose firm handles Labour's advertising, said he had been in regular touch with the Watworth Road headquarters and his men were ready to go into action.

"If an election was called tomorrow for May, let alone June, we would be ready," he said. "But it is not as though we are sitting in a war bunker, waiting for someone to press the button."

With the left wing demanding that there shall be no blurring of commitments, there could still be some trouble over the drafting of the Labour manifesto.

The Liberal and Social Democratic Parties are in no such dilemma. Their party managers say that the joint manifesto will be ready within a few days of Mrs Thatcher making the announcement. They have 637 candidates.

Mr Foot last night gave notice that he intends to make the Government's record on law and order an issue in the election campaign, Philip Webster writes.

At a meeting at the Commons of the Tribune Group of left-wing Labour MPs, Mr Foot said that Labour had an excellent chance of winning the election, whenever it was called.

Mr Roy Jenkins, the SDP leader, last night called on the Prime Minister to announce the election date with all speed.

On this subject she is as tricky as Sir Harold Wilson, as Mr Callaghan, as putnam as Sir Anthony Eden.

Labour would lose control of the Greater London Council if there was an election now, according to an opinion poll published yesterday.

The poll, conducted by Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) and published in the *London Standard*, shows the Conservatives now lead Labour by 10 per cent in the capital with 42 per cent.

The Alliance would receive 24 per cent.

Frank Johnson in the Commons Halesowen major grabs a celluloid tiger

Mr John Stokes, the Conservative member for Halesowen, who speaks for both Halesowen and England on such matters, yesterday broke his silence on the subject of *Gandhi*. At last the Empire had struck back.

Mr Stokes is one of the few remaining Tory backbenchers with the self-confidence to appear ridiculous. President of the Monarchist Association in 1937, according to his entry in *Who's Who*, Dakar Expedition, 1940 (a comrade perhaps of Evelyn Waugh's Brigadier Ritchie Hook) Major, Royal Fusiliers. "Recreations: gardening, travel, English history, church affairs. A sound man."

One would no longer go into the jungle with most Conservative backbenchers. Indeed, one would not go into a small, leafy glade with them. But Mr Stokes has a good bearing, and a small brush moustache, and his word of command is crisp and distinct. With such qualities, he is a man marked out never to get anywhere in politics.

Yesterday he managed to slip *Gandhi* into question time to the Minister for Overseas Aid. This is normally an occasion of great gentility. Some of the most hopeless cases, greatest despotisms, and self-righteous postures among the nations of the earth are referred to on both sides of the House with reverential tones.

Labour members put down questions demanding to know how much money we are giving to whatever regime has lately taken their fancy. The answer from the minister - at present Mr Timothy Raison - is always the same: a lot. So too are the Labour members' supplementary questions; not enough. Honour is satisfied all round.

Yesterday, for a few minutes, India was the topic. The two sides of the House exchanged the usual pieties. Then Mr Stokes, manifestly disdainful of the petty charge of irrelevance, admirably blundered in with: "How much aid by the British taxpayer was used in making the film, *Gandhi*?"

At this there was much scoffing from the rather middle class Labour and SDP members who tend to predominate at overseas aid question time. (Their more proletarian colleagues tend to stay away.) These genteel

members are living proof of the dangerous effect of middle-brow films on the impressionable classes. Among such MPs a half-naked Mr Ben Kingsley, walking about in *Gandhi*, arouses almost as much awe as does a half-naked Miss Joan Collins, walking about in *Dynasty*, among the proletarian members. We all have our odd little preferences.

But was the scoffing justified? Hardly. Mr Stokes was making a good point. About a third of the cost of the film, apparently, was provided by the Indians, which could help explain why Indians come rather better out of the film than Muslims or Britons. We give aid to a Government which, despite its country's poverty, finds it amusing to spend a lot of money on a film. That was the point which Mr Stokes succeeded graphically in illustrating. Can he really be such a fool?

Mr Raison replied that he was "not aware" that any of our aid for India had been spent on the film, thus missing the point that Mr Stokes was really making. But he said he would write to Mr Stokes if that answer were wrong.

During the same period of question time, Mr Tam Dalyell, the Labour backbencher who is still fighting the Falkland war, asked what had been the total expenditure of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the department to which the Minister of Overseas Aid is part, on the Falklands. Mr Raison gave the figures which, like all figures of this kind, sounded large and meaningless and need not detain us here.

Mr Dalyell complained that, with so much being spent on the islands, "it demeans both us and them when they place such obstacles in the way of the Argentine bearers going to the islands." He added: "Did she not have a cavalcade of cameras when she went?" At which such Stodestite Tory backbenchers as Sir Anthony Fell protested: "She? She? Who do you mean, she?" Presumably they, and Mr Dalyell, had the same woman in mind.

Mr Raison said Mr Dalyell's question was not about aid, which was true because all Mr Dalyell's questions, whatever the subject, are about the Falklands.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

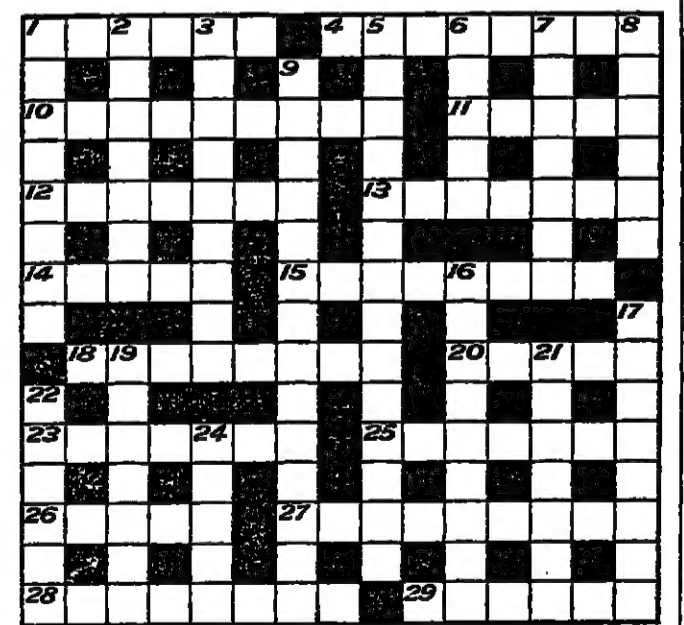
Today's events

Royal engagements
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother visits West Ham Central Mission to open York House, the new Home and Hospice, 3.15.
The Duke of Edinburgh, Senior Fellow, attends opening of the new Mantech Symposium of the Fellowship of Engineering at the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, SW1, 10; and later, as Patron of the Outward Bound Trust, attends the 1983 Outward Bound Variety Club National Sponsored

Sport Luncheon at the Grosvenor House Hotel, W1, 12.15.
Princess Margaret, as President, visits Perrins House, the Friends of the Elderly and Gentlefolk's Help Home at Malvern, 2.45.
The Duke of Gloucester carries out engagements in Birmingham; arrives Wat End Play Park, 10.40; housing department, Bush House, for opening of Warden Service control room, 11.20; The Bells Farm community centre project, Druids Heath, 12; and finally Compton Grange sheltered housing scheme, Cradley Heath, Sandwell, 2.05.
Prince Michael of Kent visits

Jaguar Cars as President of the Institute of the Motor Industry.
New exhibitions
Totally Cobbold Eastern Arts fourth national exhibition, highlighting current artists' developments and trends in Britain, selected from an open competition; Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge; Tues to Sat 10 to 4.30, Sun 12 to 4.30 (until May 29).
Drawings by Robin Macfarlane, Festival Gallery, Pierpoint Place, Bath; Tues to Sat 11 to 5 (until May 14).
New London exhibitions
Painted constructions by Gerard Wilson; Adams Gallery, Gulliver's Wharf, 103 Wapping Lane, E1; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 (until May 20).
Paintings and other works by Friedrichs Hunderwasser, and The Icon of St Peter, a recently rediscovered fourteenth century Byzantine icon, together with a small exhibition showing its restoration; both at the Barbican Art Gallery, EC2; Tues to Sat 11 to 7, Sun 12 to 6 (until June 19).
Memorial exhibition of paintings and drawings by David Cooper; Alpine Gallery, 74 South Audley Street, W1; Tues to Sat 10.30 to 5, (Sat, April 30, 10 to 2; May 2, 10 to 2) (until May 7).
Music
Concert by Klaus Schulz, Coventry Cathedral, 7.30.
Recital by the Dartington Piano Trio, Poole Arts Centre, Kingsland Road, Poole, 7.30.
Concert by the Scottish National Orchestra, Music Hall, Aberdeen, 7.30.
Concert by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Town Hall, Birmingham, 7.30.
Concert by the Morrissey Muller Band, The Manor, West Bridgford, Nottingham, 8.
Concert by the South Glamorgan Junior Schools Choir and Orchestra, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.
Recital by the Hall High School, Connecticut, Canterbury Cathedral, 12.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,113



ACROSS

- A chest fashioned to contain perfume (6).
- Following orders, find nothing dishonest about the stamp (8).
- Pirate to a listener, deer to a listener (9).
- Bestir oneself for a vigil (5).
- Determining the whereabouts of a copy (7).
- Foul play here at Wembley rather than at Lord's (7).
- Some expectations were (5).
- Sire, boy ways it's obvious (8).
- Give him his due and he'll stop being one (8).
- Something of value a girl returned (5).
- Fellow hired a wreath (7).
- Beloved carswoman (7).
- Chinese communist not a wet (5).
- Quixotic companion involved in treason (9).
- He's barely visible (8).
- Ruins young lady, the back-sliding knight (6).

- Using a diet, came out very thin (9).
- A gorgeous creature - Eve? (4,2,8).
- Stunt man, in short (5).
- An excuse so naive is deplorable (7).
- Not quite the top - there were seven against it (6).
- Court officer troubles tart managers (8-2-4).
- Make an engram of back scope (9).
- Equine disease is amazing (8).
- One who has no illusions about a bed (7).
- Fly, cloth? (7).
- Copper has the last word about penetration (6).
- Dead right afterwards (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,112

ACROSS
1. CLOSET
2. EVELYN
3. DRESS
4. EVE
5. STUNT
6. COURT
7. ENGRAM
8. EQUINE
9. FLY
10. COPPER
11. DEAD
12. RIGHT
13. AFTERWARDS
14. WREATH
15. CARSWOMAN
16. CHINESE
17. QUIXOTIC
18. COMPANION
19. INVOLVED
20. TREASON
21. BARELY
22. VISIBLE
23. RUINS
24. YOUNG
25. LADY
26. BACK
27. SLIDING
28. KNIGHT
29. SIX

National Day

Tanzania's National Day today commemorates the union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar in 1964. Tanganyika had become independent from Britain in December 1961 and Zanzibar an independent sultanate in 1963. The United Republic of Tanzania has been ruled by President Julius Nyerere since its inception.

Anniversaries

Births: John James Audubon, naturalist and artist, Cayes, Haiti, 1785; Aratus Ward, humorist, Watford, Maine, United States, 1834; Deaths: John Wilkes Booth, actor and assassin of President Lincoln was shot by troops, Fort Royal, Virginia, 1865; Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, writer and theatre director, Nobel laureate 1903, Paris, 1910.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending April 24:
BBC 1

- Kenner Television Show, 11.55m
- Notre Dame, 10.50m
- Paras, 10.25m
- London Marathon (19.15), 9.50m
- Notre Dame, 10.50m
- Paras, 10.25m
- London Marathon (19.15), 9.50m
- Notre Dame, 10.50m
- Paras, 10.25m
- London Marathon (19.15), 9.50m

- Coronation Street (Wed), Granada, 16.50m
- The Gamekeeper, 1.55m
- The Muppet Show, 1.70m
- Clash, 1.55m
- Clash, 1.55m
- Clash, 1.55m
- Clash, 1.55m
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- The Long Summer of George, 1.55m
- The Gamekeeper, 1.55m
- The Muppet Show, 1.70m
- Clash, 1.55m
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Roads

West: M5: Lane closures on both carriageways between junctions 10 (Cheltenham) and 12 (Gloucester). M5: Northbound exit slip road closed at junction 25 (Taunton); diversion via junction 26 for Taunton traffic.
Midlands: A45: Road works on New Valley Way, junction of Bedford Road roundabout, Northampton. M54: Lane closures on both carriageways Telford by-pass; diversion at junction 5. A38: Traffic starting one carriageway at Alrewas, Staffordshire.
North: A523: Reconstruction work at Mill Street, Macclesfield, Cheshire. M6: Lane closures between junction 2 (A49 Wigton) and junction 27 (A3209 Wigton/Sandwich), Greater Manchester. Road works on the A1/A6136. Various lanes closed for flyover construction on the Caterick by-pass, North Yorkshire.
Scotland: A8: Alexandra Parade, Castle Street, Glasgow. Road closed, diversion signposted. A96: Temporary diversion south-east of Blackburn, Aberdeenshire. A90: Forth Road Bridge, carriageway closures.

The papers

In leading articles, the Daily Express pursues a concern with conflicting propaganda and philosophies, East and West.
First, it describes the "so-called Hitler diaries" as "probably fakes, produced in East Germany" and says the suggestions that Hitler authored British forces to escape at Dunkirk, and approved Rudolph Hess's flight to Scotland shows that "in the propaganda war, history has a part to play."
The paper then considers Soviet industrial espionage in the light of what it calls "the total failure of communism" to provide economic success. It advises the Soviet Union: "Adopt capitalism."
Finally, the Daily Express moves to what it sees as an economic recovery of the pound as a vindication of Mrs Thatcher's policies. The Daily Star says that if Mrs Thatcher is true to herself and her instincts, there can be no question of a June election.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.56	1.78
Austria Sch	28.00	26.20
Belgium Fr	78.75	74.75
Canada \$	1.97	1.89
Denmark Kr	14.85	13.35
Finland Mk	11.77	11.22
France Fr	3.92	3.72
Germany DM	136.50	126.50
Hong Kong \$	10.95	10.38
India Rupee	12.5	1.19
Italy Lira	2315.00	2215.00
Japan Yen	385.00	365.00
Netherlands Gld	4.41	4.20
Norway Kr	11.52	10.92
Portugal Esc	169.00	149.00
South Africa R	2.06	1.89
Spain Ptas	216.00	205.00
Sweden Kr	12.10	11.50
Switzerland Fr	3.32	3.14
USA \$	1.61	1.55
Yugoslavia Dnr	126.00	119.00

Yugoslavia Dnr 126.00, 119.00. Retail Price Index: 327.9. London: The FT Index closed up 5.3 at 693.3.

Weather forecast

A complex will be slow moving near SW England as frontal trough moves N across Scotland.

6 to midnight

London, SE, SW, central E England: sunny, showers or larger periods of rain, heavy and thundery in places; wind SE, moderate; max temp 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).
East Angles, SE, E, England: sunny, periods, scattered showers; wind E, light to moderate; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).
Midlands, Wales, NW, central N England: Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, SW Scotland, Northern Ireland: sunny intervals, showers, heavy and thundery and prolonged in places; wind SE, moderate; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).
Edinburgh and Dundee, Moray Firth, NE, Scotland: cloudy, rain, heavy in places, fog near coasts; wind moderate; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).
Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland: cloudy, rain heavy in places, hill fog, becoming brighter and drier by evening; wind SE, moderate; max temp 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).
Orkney, Shetland: sunny periods, scattered showers, patches more persistent rain later; wind NE, moderate; max temp 8C (46F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: sunny intervals, showers, heavy at times near normal temperatures.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea Straits of Dover Wind SE, veering S, fresh or strong; sea 4 to 6 ft or rough. English Channel (E) Wind, S, strong, sea rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind E, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

Sun rises: 5.43 am Sun sets: 8.15 pm
Moon rises: 5.52 am Moon sets: 7.18 pm
Full Moon: Tomorrow.

Lighting-up time

London 8.45 pm to 5.12 am
Bristol 8.54 pm to 5.21 am
Edinburgh 9.11 pm to 5.10 am
Manchester 8.58 pm to 5.14 am
Penzance 9.02 pm to 5.07 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.

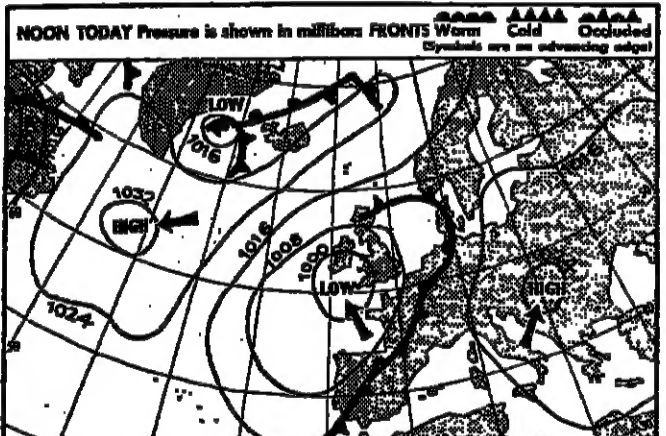
Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Dublin, 15C (59F); lowest day temp: Wick, 8C (46F); highest night temp: London, 10C (50F); lowest night temp: London, 5C (41F).
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.

London

Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13C (56F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F).
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.
a, cloud; f, fog; r, rain.

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High tides

WYOMING TODAY

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.57	7.8	2.27	7.4
Aberdeen	7.32	13.1	1.36	13.3
Aberystwyth	7.32	13.1	1.36	13.3
Bellingham	11.14	3.9	11.42	3.2
Caverhill	11.14	12.1	7.42	12.3
Davenport	5.14	5.5	8.40	5.3
Denver	5.14	5.5	8.40	5.3
Fairbanks	5.14	5.5	8.40	5.3
Glasgow	5.14	5.5	8.40	5.3
Hingham	10.24	12.2	11.18	4.6
Holyhead	10.24	12.2	11.18	4.6
Id.	1.13	5.8	1.08	5.6
Itasca	7.32	6.42	6.42	6.42
Lehigh	8.15	9.1	8.27	9.1
Lodi	2.41	5.5	5.1	5.1
Liverpool	11.36	5.8	11.37	5.8
Lowell	9.57	2.4	9.58	2.4
Louisville	12.38	12.38	12.38	12.38
Marshfield	8.29	7.1	6.53	7.0
Millers Haven	8.29	7.1	6.53	7.0
Monterey	5.20	7.3	5.44	7.0
Ocean	5.20	7.3	5.44	7.0
Orono	7.1	5.8	6.36	5.8
Portland	7.1	5.8	6.36	5.8
Portsmouth	11.38	4.8	11.37	4.7
Portland	11.38	4.8	11.37	4.7
Richmond	11.38	4.8	11.37	4.7
Southampton	11.38	4.8	11.37	4.7
St. John	3.58	9.5	7.3	9.8
Walton-on-Nezce	3.58	9.5	7.3	9.8

—blue sky to-blue sky and clear, c-cloudy

—overcast, b-bog, d-dazzling, h-hail, m-mist,

overcast, h-hazy, d-dazzling, p-powder,

overcast, h-hazy, d-dazzling, p-powder,

overcast, h-hazy, d-dazzling, p-powder,

overcast, h-hazy, d-dazzling, p-powder,

overcast, h-hazy, d-dazzling, p-powder,

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